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# A Standard History of Jasper and Newton Counties Indiana

An Authentic Narrative of the Past, with an Extended  
Survey of Modern Developments in the  
Progress of Town and Country

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Under the Editorial Supervision of  
LOUIS H. HAMILTON, Rensselaer  
For Jasper County

and

WILLIAM DARROCH, Kentland  
For Newton County

Assisted by a Board of Advisory Editors

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Volume II

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*ILLUSTRATED*

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MR. AND MRS. WALTER C. PORTER AND FAMILY



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MR. AND MRS. WALTER V. PORTER AND FAMILY





## Jasper and Newton Counties

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WALTER V. PORTER. The Porter family in Jasper County not only deserves distinctions associated with long residence, but also with those sterling activities and civic character which are so important in the upbuilding of any community. The people of that name have been identified with the county more than sixty-five years, and it is consistent with the prominence of the family that some of its members should receive individual mention in these pages.

The first of the family to locate in Jasper County was Asa Porter, Sr. He was born in Orange County, Indiana, and came to Jasper County in 1849, locating land in the southeast part of section 35 and the northeast part of section 2 in Marion Township in the country south of Pleasant Ridge. There he spent the rest of his days as one of the industrious farmers, and his efforts enabled him to accumulate considerable property. Asa Porter, Sr., married Lucinda McGrew, and they became the parents of fourteen children. Three of their sons, Jonah, Asa and Rice, all gave up their lives as sacrifices to the Union cause during the Civil war. Asa Porter was a member of the Baptist Church and most of his family have been connected with the same denomination. By the old settlers yet living Asa Porter is recalled as a man who did much good in the community, was always ready to lend a helping hand to all worthy causes and in every way an ideal citizen.

Rice M. Porter, one of the sons of Asa Porter, Sr., was born in Orange County, Indiana, in 1834, and was a boy of fifteen when his parents removed to Jasper County. Very few of the Indiana counties of that time had improved school facilities, and Mr. Porter attended one of the old time schoolhouses, a rough building with slab benches for seats, puncheon floor, learned his lessons from his very limited range of text books, principally a speller and reader, wrote his copy with a goose quill pen, and his education was pronounced complete when he had mastered the fundamentals of arithmetic, reading, writing and spelling. In the meantime his practical training for the real duties of farm life had not been neglected, and for several years he applied himself to the duties found on the old homestead, clearing, planting and harvesting the crops. Rice M. Porter married Mary A. Clark, and to their union were born four children: Jessie F., Walter V., William M. and Asa. In the spring of 1865 Rice M. Porter enlisted in a company of the 151st Indiana Volunteer Infantry. His regiment went to the front and was assigned to guard duty, and while in the service Mr. Porter was



taken down with malaria and died from that disease at Nashville, Tennessee. As already stated, he was one of three brothers who gave up their lives as sacrifices during the war. His widow survived him nearly half a century, passing away in June, 1913, and had spent her last years with a married daughter in Kansas.

Walter V. Porter, son of Rice M. and grandson of Asa Porter, Sr., has for many years sturdily upheld the reputation of his family in Jasper County, where he was born April 24, 1858. His name has been linked not only with the farming but the business affairs of his locality, and he has discharged his obligations as an individual with unvarying fidelity.

His boyhood was spent on the old homestead in Marion Township, and his education came from public schools which were only a few degrees advanced above those which his father attended. As the oldest son, he began helping his mother as soon as his strength permitted, and was her main dependence in keeping the home and her little family together until he reached his majority. He then found work as a farm hand, and earned his living in that way for three years.

March 23, 1882, Mr. Porter married Miss Amanda E. Parkinson, daughter of Joseph Parkinson of Jasper County. After his marriage he paid \$25 an acre for a quarter section of land  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles east of Rensselaer on the Picasant Ridge Road, and there began his independent career as a farmer. After making his home there and continuing his agricultural operations for eight years, Mr. Porter in the fall of 1890 became one of the partners in the management of the McCoy Ranch in Jordan Township. The McCoy Ranch for many years was one of the large farms and stock centers of Jasper County, and Mr. Porter was a responsible factor in its management for about sixteen years. He later continued the management of the ranch under the administrator of the McCoy estate until the estate was settled and the property sold. In 1907 Mr. Porter moved into Rensselaer, and has since had his home in the county seat. In 1891 he sold his original farm  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles east of town, and in 1892 bought a half section in Jordan Township near the Newton County line. This he sold in 1894, and then bought the old Richey place on Carpenter Creek in Marion Township. Since then Mr. Porter has increased his holdings in that vicinity and is now the owner of a fine farm of 480 acres. In addition to his general farming and stock interests he has for the past three years been engaged in building bridges and roads throughout Jasper County, and has undertaken and carried out most creditably a number of important contracts of this kind.

He has been identified with all movements tending to promote the best interests of his locality, and his record is that of a man of strict probity and sincere motives. Politically he is a republican and for about fourteen years has been a member of the county council. Fraternally he is a Royal Arch Mason, No. 125, and is also identified with the Knights of Pythias, No. 82.



Mr. and Mrs. Porter are the parents of six children: Joseph V. Rice, Fannie, Ella Dale, William Ross, Charles W. and Walter, Jr. Joseph V. Porter is a graduate of the Rensselaer High School, and a member of the graduating class of 1906 from the North Western Military Academy at Highland Park, Illinois. At the present time he is serving as deputy sheriff of Jasper County. He married Miss Lola Fountain, of Newton County, a daughter of one of that county's leading citizens, and they have a little son, Darwin. Joseph V. Porter is a Republican and a member of the Masonic and the Knights of Pythias fraternities at Rensselaer. Fannie, the only living daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Porter, after attending the common and high schools of Rensselaer, was a student for two years in the Staunton Seminary at Staunton, Virginia, and also a student in the school of Faribault, Minnesota. She is the wife of Rev. Vaughn Woodworth, a clergyman in the Presbyterian Church near Omaha, Nebraska. William Ross Porter attended the common and high schools in Rensselaer, and is now a leading young agriculturist of Jasper County. He is a republican, a Mason and a Knight of Pythias. Charles W. Porter, another of the rising young farmers of Jasper County, received a good educational training, and sustains the same political and fraternal relations as his brothers. Walter, Jr., the youngest of the children living, is a member of the first year class of the Rensselaer High School. The daughter Ella Dale died in infancy. Mrs. Porter, the mother, is a native of Jasper County, where she was reared and educated, and is a member of one of the county's oldest and most prominent families. She is a devout member of the Presbyterian Church.

**HIRAM BURGESS.** One of the pioneer business men of the town of Goodland was the late Hiram Burgess, who died April 8, 1915, in Los Angeles, California. More than forty-five years have passed since this branch of the Burgess family became identified with Newton County, and in his time the late Hiram Burgess was identified with farm development, with the drug business at Goodland, and with many of the movements and organizations which have been most beneficial in the welfare and progress of that community.

A son of John C. and Acsah (Christe) Burgess, and of Scotch-German descent, Hiram Burgess was born in Washington County, New York, July 9, 1832. His parents were among the early settlers of Washington County where his mother died in March, 1860, and his father in July, 1865. As a boy Hiram Burgess obtained common school education in New York, was thoroughly trained in business system and detail, and at the death of his father succeeded to the ownership of the old Burgess homestead, which occupied a picturesque site on the shores of Lake George.

It was in 1867 that he came West, locating first in Will County, Illinois, and from there three years later coming to Grand Township in Newton County, Indiana. He was a man of considerable





means when he came to Newton County and his first enterprise was the purchase of one hundred twenty acres of wild prairie land two miles West of Goodland. He developed much of this land and made it his home while cultivating its crops until 1873. From that year forward for a great many years he was identified with the drug business in Goodland. He was one of the men who had faith in the village and as early as 1872 expended nearly seven thousand dollars in the construction of the Burgess Block, which in its time was the most conspicuous structure in the village. It had a frontage of sixty-two feet on Newton Street and eighty-six feet on Union Street. It was in that building that Mr. Burgess had his drug store. He sold out his drug business to Constable & Pierce and moved to Los Angeles, California, in 1905, where he spent the remainder of life retired.

The first presidential vote Hiram Burgess cast was for John C. Fremont, the first presidential standard bearer of the republican party. Ever afterwards he loyally supported the party, but never manifested any strong desire for the honors of politics. He was especially active in the Methodist Episcopal Church, and for thirty years was superintendent of its Sunday School. His wife was also identified with the same denomination.

On January 14, 1855, Mr. Burgess married Miss Tirsa Warren. Her father was N. A. Warren of Essex County, New York. To their marriage were born three children: Eliza G., who married E. J. Hunter and has two children, Graham and Fannie. Mr. Hunter is deceased and his wife lives in Los Angeles, California. Elmer married Estella Hamilton and has one child, Lyle L. The family live in Los Angeles, California. Edward A. died in 1877. No direct descendants of Hiram Burgess live in Newton County.

**CHARLES E. BURGESS.** For more than a quarter of a century the leading hardware merchant at Goodland has been Charles E. Burgess, whose home has been within the borders of Newton County nearly forty-five years, and whose standing as a business man and citizen requires little comment by way of introduction.

He was born in Washington County, New York, March 17, 1854, a son of Charles and Jane (Barrett) Burgess. Charles Burgess, his father, was also born in Washington County, New York, March 14, 1824, and was a son of John Burgess of Scotch-German stock. In 1857 Charles Burgess moved his family west to Will County, Illinois, and from that locality came in 1871 to Newton County, Indiana, locating three miles west of Goodland in Grant Township. A year later he moved to Goodland and was a resident of that town until his death. He was highly prosperous in all his undertakings, and at the time of his death left an estate of more than four hundred acres, part of it included within the city limits of Goodland. It was by the rugged industry of pioneer farming that he accumulated the generous competence which he enjoyed in his later years and which he left to his descendants. Charles Burgess



married Jane Barrett, who was also born in Washington County. His remains are now at rest in the Goodland cemetery. A brief record of their six children is: Sophronia M., who lives in Goodland; Charles E.; George L., of Goodland; Harry A., who married Emma Drake, lives in Grant Township; May J., wife of George R. Sapp, who lives in Mecosta, Michigan; and Fayette A., a resident of Grant Township, who married Bernice A. Jakway, son of A. G. Jakway. The father of these children was a republican in politics, but was not a seeker for office, belonged to no secret orders, and exemplified in his individual career the sterling traits of manhood and character which were his essential possessions. He died in March, 1880, being survived by his widow.

When Charles E. Burgess was three years of age his family moved to Will County, and he was about seventeen when they came to Newton County. Since then his home has been within the borders of this county, and his education was finished in the public schools at Goodland. Quite early in his career, on account of the poor health of his father, he took the management of the home farm, and he demonstrated much practical ability in agricultural matters, though his real career began after he left the farm in 1888 and bought a half interest in the hardware store of T. J. Gray at Goodland. For many years the firm of Gray & Burgess carried the largest stock of hardware and implements in Grant Township, and was a successful concern under that name sixteen years. In 1904 Mr. Gray retired from business and since then the enterprise has been carried on under the individual name of Charles E. Burgess.

On December 9, 1886, Mr. Burgess married Lilly S. Stryker, daughter of Rev. William M. and Isabel Stryker of Emporia, Kansas. Her father, who was a minister of the Presbyterian Church and lived in many localities during his active career, was born in Pennsylvania of German descent, while her mother was a native of Ohio and of Scotch descent. Mr. and Mrs. Burgess have one child, Olive Virginia, now the wife of Brewster B. Hoornbeek of Elgin, Illinois.

In addition to his success as a merchant Mr. Burgess is known for his varied public and social activities. He has served as a member of the town board three years, as member and treasurer of the school board eight years, and was on the building committee during the construction of the handsome new school building at Goodland. In politics he is a republican, and he has been a member of the Presbyterian Church for many years, served as its treasurer twenty years and ten years as an elder. His wife is also active in the same denomination. Mrs. Burgess is a member of the Library Board at Goodland and is secretary of the local Women's Christian Temperance Union.

GEORGE R. THORNTON. When one considers the hopes and enthusiasm, the labors accompanied by the sweat of the brow, the



trials and misfortunes, and the nobility of self-sacrifice which have been woven into the early history of Jasper County by the lives of its early settlers, there comes a sense of the responsibility connected with giving appropriate record wherever possible to those men and women who really laid the foundation of the present prosperous conditions and who since their work was accomplished have gone on to the future world. One of those most deserving of such memorial is the late George R. Thornton, who was in many ways conspicuous among the early settlers of the county.

Born in Ohio in 1818, George R. Thornton was a son of Phineas Thornton. Phineas Thornton was born in Vermont, and early in the history of Ohio as a state settled in Champaign County. George R. Thornton grew up to the life of a farmer. While living in Ohio he married Mary E. Roberts, and about 1842 they moved from that state to Indiana locating one mile from Surry in Newton Township of Jasper County. Buying some land, he entered some from the government, in a totally wild condition. He built a house, typical of the structures of the time, and set himself vigorously to the work of clearing, plowing, planting and general improvement. For many years he lived there harvesting successive crops and gradually growing in prosperity and influence. When he and his wife came to Jasper County they had one daughter, Mercy E., who subsequently married Ira J. Baker. At their home in Jasper County were born four children: Malvina, now Mrs. Theodore F. Warne; George Jerome, who died when about nineteen years of age; Greenleaf L.; and Minerva, who died in infancy. The mother of these children died in 1855, and Mr. Thornton married for his second wife Louisa Blankenbaker, who became the mother of eight children.

George R. Thornton was a man of only limited education, but being a great reader remedied this early handicap and was regarded as one who possessed an unusual range of information and knowledge on many topics of interest. In religion he was a Baptist and died in that faith, while in politics he was first a whig and then a republican, but never aspired to public office and performed his best service as a neighbor, a father, and an upright citizen. Sober and industrious, and with a good practical sense, he met the issues of life as they arose and was rewarded with an ample share of material prosperity. Honest to the core, kind as a neighbor, and acting his belief in doing all the good he could, he commanded universal esteem. George R. Thornton died in 1892 at the age of seventy-four.

His son Greenleaf L. Thornton has been one of the honored residents of Jasper County for many years, and his position in affairs is now that of county assessor, and both as an official and as a man he is one of the best known citizens of Jasper County. He was born on the old Thornton homestead in Newton Township May 1, 1852. The first twenty-one years of his life were spent



at home and while there he gained a great deal of the practical training which has served him so well in his independent career. Such education as he obtained was acquired in the district schools, but the schools he attended during the decade of the '60s were far inferior in point of facilities and breadth of instruction to those which country boys now attend, although many of the noblest men and women of the country were products of just such institutions of learning.

On March 2, 1876, Mr. Thornton married Lydia A. Pillars, a daughter of Samuel and Adaline (Hammond) Pillars. The Pillars family were early settlers in Owen County, Indiana. After his marriage Mr. Thornton followed farming and stock trading until 1884 and then with such capital as he had accumulated he moved out to the State of Kansas. His residence in the Sunflower State during the next ten years was the most disastrous period of his career. The Kansas of thirty years ago was not the Kansas of today, and very few of its residents escaped the almost continuous vicissitudes which beset the farmer and settler. While there Mr. Thornton lost practically every dollar he had in the world, and when he returned to Jasper County it was to begin life's battles entirely over again. He was soon on his feet and making headway as a farmer and trader, and that has been his chief business in the county for nearly twenty years, with the exception of four years spent in business at Surry.

Mr. Thornton is a vigorous member of the republican party of Jasper County and his experience in public office has been largely in the duties of assessing. For four years he was assessor of Newton Township, for one year was assessor of Marion Township, and in the fall of 1914 was the choice of the people of Jasper County for county assessor. He is now giving a most capable administration in that office. Fraternally Mr. Thornton is affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, Lodge No. 143. He and his wife are members of the Methodist Church. To their marriage have been born four children: Melvin J.; Raymond Earl; Malvina May, now Mrs. Orlo A. Abbott; and George Taylor.

**ADALINE (HAMMOND) THORNTON.** Among the faithful, devoted, hard-working and self-sacrificing women whose lives adorned the early history of Northwestern Indiana, mention should be made of the late Mrs. Adaline (Hammond) Thornton, who died at her home in the northern part of Rensselaer March 12, 1910, at the age of eighty years two months thirteen days.

Adaline Hammond was born in Jackson County, Indiana, December 30, 1829, a daughter of Oliver and Lydia Hammond, who removed from Jackson County to Monticello, White County, in 1835, lived there until 1838, and then came as pioneers into the new country of Jasper County. The Hammonds were among the early settlers, and the late Mrs. Thornton spent her early life in the en-





vironment of seventy years ago, with such conditions as have since been completely transformed by the march of progress.

In 1855 she married Samuel Pillars, who was likewise of the early settlers of Jasper County, but who did not live long after his marriage, passing away December 5, 1857. To their marriage was born one child, Lydia A. Pillars, now the wife of G. L. Thornton, Jasper County's popular assessor. In 1865 Mrs. Pillars married Henry T. Thornton, who died November 27, 1897. The two children of this marriage are: Dora May, Mrs. George Clark, and Josiah C. Thornton. At the time of her death Mrs. Thornton was survived by two brothers and a sister, and several grandchildren and great-grandchildren. As a child she was united with the Free Will Baptist Church and remained a faithful member and an earnest Christian until her death.

DR. FRANCIS AUGUSTUS TURFLER. With the general advance of science in modern times various new methods of healing have sprung up, one of the most prominent of which is osteopathy. This is based on the theory that all diseases are due to some abnormal position of the bones of the body, and treatment is directed, therefore, wholly or chiefly, to that part of the human organism. A leading practitioner of this science in Jasper County is Dr. Francis Augustus Turfler, of Rensselaer, a man of more than average ability who has gained more than a local reputation. Dr. Turfler was born in Orange County, New York, October 13, 1878, and was educated in the public and high school at Warwick, that county. At a later period he went west and for some two years resided at Kansas City, Missouri, while there being engaged in various occupations, having previously had some mercantile experience as a clerk in New York State. In the fall of 1900 he entered the American School of Osteopathy at Kirksville, Missouri, (the parent institution of the science), and was graduated therefrom in 1902. He began the practice of his profession in Seward, Nebraska, but remained there but a short time, coming in 1903 to Rensselaer, where he has since followed it very successfully. In fact, his fame is so wide spread that he was selected as demonstrator before the National Osteopathic Association at the Jamestown Exposition, held at Norfolk, Virginia, and was also selected as a demonstrator before the National Society in the following year at Chicago. Later he demonstrated before the New England Society at Boston, and several times since before the Chicago Society. He has also been invited to demonstrate before the National Society at the meeting to be held in 1915. Doctor Turfler has contributed to the medical press articles on special subjects, one on cervical lesions attracting more than ordinary attention. The state organizations before which he has demonstrated are those of Wisconsin, Illinois, Indiana, Minnesota, Kentucky and Ohio. His practice has outgrown Jasper County and his patients come to him from various points throughout the United States. He is a member





*F. A. Turfler, D. O.*



of the American Osteopathic Association, the Indiana Osteopathic Association, and also the Chicago Association. His other society affiliations are with the Atlan Club of his school and the Knights of Pythias, Castle Hall No. 82. In religion he is a Methodist.

Aside from his profession Dr. Turfler is interested in onion production, and owns 500 acres of land, a large part of which is devoted to onion culture. He is the present president of the local society of onion growers. Doctor Turfler was married April 12, 1903, to Anna Francis, of Jasper County, who is also a graduate of the American Society of Osteopathy. They have had three sons: Francis Augustus; Arthur, who died in infancy, and Robert Still. The doctor's successful career illustrates the value of mental concentration upon any pursuit undertaken, and shows that "whatever is worth doing, is worth doing well."

**NORMAN WARNER.** For fifty-seven years a continuous resident of Jasper County and for fifty-five years living in the house in which he now resides at Rensselaer, Norman Warner has been in many other important ways closely identified with this community. He knew Rensselaer first when it was a hamlet, and his individual enterprise has been no unimportant factor in the collective activities which have constituted here one of the best small cities in Northwestern Indiana. As a business man his work was accomplished some years ago, and he has since surrendered the cares of a business, which developed under his direction to his capable sons.

A native of Indiana, Norman Warner was born in Rush County March 15, 1833, so that he passed the eightieth milestone of his mortal journey several years ago. His parents were Daniel K. and Elizabeth (Phillips) Warner, the former a native of Connecticut and the latter of Ohio. Daniel K. Warner was a carriage maker by trade. As a Yankee peddler he came West in the early days of Indiana, and while in Rush County was married and for a time was associated with his wife's father in merchandising there. Subsequently, owing to the death of his father, he returned to Connecticut and was engaged in carriage making in that state until the early '40s. He then moved to Cincinnati, and established a factory as a carriage maker. While at Cincinnati he secured a valuable contract to make wagons for the war department to be used in the Mexican war. Few men of his time had greater push and courage than Daniel K. Warner. In 1850, fired by the glowing reports of the discovery of gold in California, he made the journey to the Pacific Coast by way of the Isthmus of Panama, taking with him material for a sawmill. Finding no satisfactory location in California, he went on to Astoria, Oregon, and there set up his plant and was one of the early lumber manufacturers in that region of the Northwest which now supplies so much of the lumber material of the world. After operating his mill a little more than two years he sold out and returned to Indiana.





It was in 1853 that Daniel K. Warner first located in Jasper County. He bought nearly a section of land adjoining Rensselaer on the east. A little later he embarked on what was then considered a grand scale as a grower of wheat, planting for one crop more than five hundred acres to that grain. This was toward the end of his active and vigorous career, and he died on his farm in Rensselaer in 1856. His widow survived him until 1898. Of their nine children five reached maturity and two are now living.

Norman Warner, who was a young man of twenty-three when his father died, in youth had learned the blacksmith's trade as applied to carriage making at Cincinnati. His first acquaintance with Jasper County was made on his seventeenth birthday, in 1850, and his employment here at various occupations was varied, to use his own words, by "shaking with the ague." He also worked in Lafayette for a time.

On February 24, 1857, Norman Warner married Josephine Grant, a daughter of Daniel Grant, who had come to Jasper County as early as 1850. Following his marriage he lived at Waveland in Montgomery County for a time, and then moved to Rensselaer as his permanent home. For many years Mr. Warner followed general blacksmithing but from that embarked in the retail hardware business. For forty years he kept his place as one of the active merchants of Rensselaer, but since 1898 has been retired from the active cares of life. Mr. Warner is one of the few original republicans still living in Jasper County. He cast his first presidential ballot for John C. Fremont, the first standard bearer of the new republican party in 1856, and for more than half a century has steadfastly affiliated with that party. His chief public service through the medium of office was given by a service of fifteen years as coroner of Jasper County. He and his wife are members of the Church of God. To their marriage were born three children, Daniel Grant and Norman Hale, both merchants at Rensselaer as the successors of their father, and Charles Crittenden.

In February, 1907, Mr. and Mrs. Norman Warner celebrated their fiftieth wedding anniversary. They are among the oldest couples of Jasper County, and their works and influence have well upheld the dignity associated with such long years. Few people of Jasper County are more widely known and none more highly respected than Mr. and Mrs. Warner.

Daniel Grant Warner, the oldest of the sons of Mr. and Mrs. Norman Warner, has for many years been a successful factor in business affairs. He was born March 23, 1858, at Waveland in Montgomery County, Indiana, but soon afterward went with his parents on their return to Jasper County. He grew up in Rensselaer, attended the public schools of his time, and his career found its practical beginning as a clerk in his father's store. He has been identified with that business for about thirty-five years, and in 1898 he and his brother Norman H. succeeded to its management under



the firm name of Warner Brothers. Mr. Warner is a republican and is affiliated with the Knights of Pythias. On January 28, 1886, he married Miss Gertrude M. Robinson, a daughter of George M. Robinson. They have one son, Rex D. Mrs. Warner is an active member of the Presbyterian Church. Norman Hale Warner, second of these sons, was born in the house in which his father now resides at Rensselaer on September 21, 1860. For fifty-five years he has lived in Jasper County, and with an education supplied by the public schools was thoroughly trained to business under the direction of his father. He assisted in the store until he and his brother succeeded to the business in 1898, and has since been one of the active members of the firm of Warner Brothers. He is a republican, and has been affiliated with the local lodge of the Knights of Pythias since 1881. On January 25, 1885, Norman H. Warner married Miss Blanche Burroughs, who died June 30, 1897. Her daughter, Hazel, born December 13, 1885, was married on February 24, 1910, the fifty-third wedding anniversary of her grandparents, to J. V. Hamilton, and they now reside in Indianapolis. On August 24, 1899, Norman H. Warner married Miss Mary Fetrow of Denver, Indiana. Mrs. Warner is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Charles Crittenden Warner, the youngest of the three Warner brothers, has had a somewhat more varied career than the other two, spent several years in the West, served two terms as Circuit Court clerk of Jasper County, and is now prosperously engaged in the lumber business at Rensselaer. He was born in Rensselaer October 26, 1862, and grew up in his home town, was educated in the public schools, and to describe his youthful days in his own words, passed much of his time fishing, playing baseball and frequenting the old "swimmin' hole" made famous by James Whitcomb Riley. Before reaching his majority he had made himself useful in his father's hardware store and finished his education by attending DePauw and Purdue universities. On completing his schooling he spent about three years in a law office as collector and in the handling of insurance and abstract work. From 1888 to 1892 Mr. Warner lived in Colorado, where he proved up on a quarter section of land, and for three years was employed in the county recorder's office of Baca County. Then returning to Rensselaer, he was in the retail hardware business for a time, but in 1902 was elected to office as Circuit Court clerk and began his duties in 1904. His service of eight years in that office was characterized by the fidelity and methodical management which are the chief requirements in such an office, and the duties of the position were never more capably performed than by Mr. Warner. Since leaving his office in the court house Mr. Warner has been engaged in the retail lumber business.

In politics he is a republican, and is affiliated with the Knights of Pythias. On October 10, 1900, he married Miss Mary Bell Purcupile of Rensselaer. They have one daughter, Helen.



JOHN L. NICHOLS. One of the oldest living representatives of the pioneer generation in Jasper County is John L. Nichols of Rensselaer. While he belongs to the third generation since the families of his mother and father came to America, those in the paternal line coming from Ireland and those in the maternal from Germany, there are few families who have been identified with the country west of the Alleghenies for a longer time. His father, George W. Nichols, was born in Kentucky in 1793, not long after Kentucky was made a sovereign state and during the first administration of President Washington. His mother, Rebecca (Lewis) Nichols was born in Ohio in 1795, and thus it is evident that the family on both sides was identified with the early American movements to the West.

George W. Nichols was a farmer all his life. During the existence of that party he voted the whig ticket and was afterwards equally loyal to the principles of the republican doctrines and candidates. He served as a justice of the peace for many years in Jasper County, and was a very active and substantial citizen. He was a working member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

It was in October, 1842, that the Nichols family came to Jasper County. Little had been done in the way of clearing and improvement at that time, and even when John L. Nichols was old enough to appreciate his surroundings his outlook was upon a district very sparsely populated and practically everyone living in log cabins and making very slow advances towards clearing and cultivating the land. The family on coming to Jasper County settled in Barkley Township, where the father bought one hundred sixty acres direct from the Government, paying the regular price of one dollar and a quarter per acre. In that community the family of children were reared, and of these children there were twelve in number, namely: Cynthia Ann, Jackson, Elizabeth, Hester Jane, Olive, Solomon, John L., Harrison, Samuel R., Mary Matilda, Benjamin and Alonzo. All are now deceased except John L. and Mary Matilda. The oldest son, Jackson, enlisted as a private in an Indiana regiment for service in the Mexican war, going to the front from Rensselaer, and he died while in service south of the Rio Grande. While he was the only one of his family to serve in the Mexican war, there were two of the sons who made records in the Civil war. These were John L. and his brother Solomon, both of whom enlisted on August 11, in 1862 in Company A of the 87th Indiana Infantry. They went out as privates and both fought at the battle of Perryville, in the fall of the same year. John L. Nichols subsequently was stricken with the measles, and was sent home and given an honorable discharge in May, 1863.

The mind of John L. Nichols is stored with many interesting recollections of early conditions and people in Jasper County. As he was born December 16, 1839, in Champaign County, Ohio, he was about three years old when the family moved to Jasper County,



and his individual recollections go back into the decade of the '40s, for almost seventy years. As a boy he attended school at the old Hinkle schoolhouse. That was a school supported on the old time subscription plan when a family paid two dollars for a term of three months for each pupil in the school. After John L. had attended four terms, his education so far as books and schools were concerned was ended, since his services were required at home as a helper on the farm and thenceforth his training was in the direction of practical work in the line of the occupation which he followed for a livelihood throughout his active years.

On October 25, 1859, when about twenty years of age, Mr. Nichols married Martha Daniels, member of an old and prominent Jasper County family. They had little more than established their first home when Mr. Nichols left to enter the army. To their union were born six children: Angeline, Wallace, Jesse, Dallas, Hattie and Chattie. In May, 1885, the beloved mother of this family was laid to rest, after more than twenty-five years of married companionship. After her death the family lived in Rensselaer for six months, but then returned to the home farm.

Mr. Nichols' second marriage was with Mary Reed, but no children were born of that union. His present wife was Mrs. Eliza Jane (Potts) Lowman, their marriage having occurred on the 17th of May, 1912. Mrs. Nichols was born in Hancock County, Indiana, October 26, 1856, and she was reared and educated there. By her marriage to Charles Lowman she became the mother of five children, of whom four are now living, three sons and one daughter, all residents of Indiana. Mr. Lowman died in 1902. Both Mr. and Mrs. Nichols are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church at Rensselaer, and he is also a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows of that city.

Mr. John L. Nichols in his own work as a farmer has rendered the country a service through the extensive improvements he has placed upon his land and has kept his own property up to the advanced standards of progressive agriculture. In politics he is a republican and served as trustee of his home township for four years. In every movement for public improvement, education, general uplift in moral and religious conditions, he has given his active support.

**IRA M. WASHBURN.** For almost forty years the name Washburn has had familiar associations in Jasper County with the profession of medicine. The older representative of the name is Dr. Israel B. Washburn, and his son Dr. Ira M. Washburn has for the past fifteen years looked after a large and excellent practice in medicine and surgery at Rensselaer.

Both these physicians were natives of Indiana and Dr. Ira M. Washburn was born at Logansport June 23, 1874. Dr. Israel B. Washburn was also born in Cass County, a son of Moses L.





Washburn, who was a farmer by occupation and settled in Cass County in pioneer times.

Dr. Israel B. Washburn graduated from Rush Medical College in Chicago with the class of 1861. He soon afterwards entered the army and was surgeon of the 46th Indiana Volunteer Infantry. He entered the army as a private soldier in the ranks and was gradually advanced along the line of promotion until he attained the position of surgeon in the regiment with the rank of major. He was still under twenty-five when he reached this high responsibility, and that was a splendid compliment to his ability and soldierly qualities. After the war he located in Logansport, practiced there until 1877, and then removed to Rensselaer, which was his home until his death in 1903. He was one of the organizers and the first president of the Kankakee Valley Medical Society, which later became the Tenth District Medical Society. He was an unusual man in his profession and kept abreast of the times by extensive reading and post-graduate courses. He was also a liberal contributor to the medical press and one of the foremost medical men of his day in Indiana. Dr. Israel B. Washburn married Martha A. Moore of Logansport. Of their eight children four are still living. The mother now makes her home in Virginia.

Dr. Ira M. Washburn came to Rensselaer when three years of age. He grew to manhood in this locality and from the public schools he entered Purdue University where he was graduated Bachelor of Science in 1896. In the fall of the same year he entered Rush Medical College at Chicago, but had previously read medicine under his father's direction. While a student in Chicago he enlisted as hospital private for the Spanish-American war. He became a member of Company K First Infantry, Illinois National Guard. Subsequently he was promoted to the rank of hospital steward. He was one of the comparatively few volunteers who got into actual service, and was present at the siege of Santiago. He received his honorable discharge from the army December 1, 1898.

Reentering Rush Medical College, he remained there until graduating M. D. in 1900. Since then for fifteen years steadily he has practiced at Rensselaer, and succeeded to much of the practice which his father had enjoyed and has built up a large and influential clientele of his own.

He is a member of the North American Association of Railway Surgeons, the Monon Railway Surgeons Association, the American Medical Association, the Indiana State Medical Association, the Tenth District Medical Society and the Jasper and Newton Counties Medical Society. Fraternally he is affiliated with the Masonic Order. On June 10, 1903, Doctor Washburn married Elsie M. Watson. Their four children are named Josephine, Mary, Nathaniel and Elsie.





Mrs Henry Amster





Henry Amisley



HENRY AMSLER. Some of the most progressive of Jasper County's citizens came from the West rather than from the East, which is the usual movement in the progress of migration. In this class is found Henry Amsler, who is a native of Illinois, in which state he spent most of his years until his removal to Jasper County about fifteen years ago. Mr. Amsler is a veteran of the Civil war, and laid the foundation for his material prosperity in the rich farming districts of Central Illinois. Though now a resident of Rensselaer, he is one of the extensive land holders of Jasper County.

A native of Woodford County, Illinois, he was born there December 5, 1838, a son of John and Anna (Brock) Amsler. Both his parents were born in the little Republic of Switzerland, were reared and married there, and while able to provide for their needs by the simple and limited possibilities of farm husbandry in the old country, they were induced by the promise of greater opportunities in the New World to come to America, and accomplished that journey, then a very difficult performance, during the closing years of the decade of the '20s. There were no steamships crossing the Atlantic at that time, and the sailing vessel on which they took passage was two months on the voyage. For about four years they lived in Pennsylvania, then moved west and for one year farmed in what is now a part of the City of Peoria, Illinois. From there they went to Woodford County and later to Tazewell County, where they spent the remaining days of their lives. They were the parents of nine children, one of whom was born in Switzerland, and four of them are still living.

The youth and early manhood of Henry Amsler was spent in assisting in the work of the home farm in Illinois. His entire attendance at school did not aggregate more than eighteen months. At the age of twenty-one he started out for himself, and as might be truthfully said he began at the bottom of the ladder of life, and with the exception of the time while he was in the army has always followed farming and agricultural pursuits. For about ten years he was engaged in agriculture in Woodford County, but with that exception his home was in Livingston County, Illinois, until his removal to Jasper County. In August, 1901, he came to this county, and has since had his home in Rensselaer, but owns and looks after the cultivation and management of about 700 acres of land in the county.

On November 11, 1866, Mr. Amsler married Miss Emma J. Clark. She was born in Franklin County, New York, January 1, 1849, a daughter of Jonas and Martha (Mills) Clark, who spent their declining years in Jasper County with Mr. and Mrs. Amsler. They both died here, and each was about ninety-three years of age at the time. Mr. and Mrs. Amsler have become the parents of five children. Bert married Miss Eliza Clark, and they have four children: Myrtle, who married Floyd Spain, and they have one child, Bert, two months old, Ralph, William and Geraldine. James





Amsler, the second son, married Miss Nettie Eldred, and their three children are Theodore, Della and Sylvester. Iva married Jesse Carvalho, and they have two children, Milton and Lorene. Myrtle married Irving Jones, and they have six children, Josephine, Mildred, Lewis, Gerald, Clark and Louise. Floyd married Miss Opal Seibert, and their only child is Floyd Seibert. Mrs. Amsler, the mother of these children, has ever been faithful to her religious duties in the Methodist Episcopal Church, in which she is an official in the Ladies' Aid Society and the Ladies Foreign Missionary Society.

In politics Mr. Amsler has supported the republican candidates since casting his first vote for Lincoln in 1860. When the Civil war threatened the disruption of the Union he enlisted at one of the critical times in the struggle on August 27, 1862, in Company F of the Eighty-fifth Illinois Infantry. He went to the front at Louisville, Kentucky, and a few days later was first under fire in the Battle of Perryville, Kentucky. His regiment participated in a number of minor engagements and also in the great battle of Stone River, though owing to illness Mr. Amsler was not present at that engagement. Later he fought at Missionary Ridge and was also on the expedition sent to relieve Knoxville. He rejoined Sherman's command in time to participate in the great campaign through Northern Georgia, and was in much of the hundred days' fighting between Chattanooga and Atlanta, and participated in the siege and fall of Atlanta, one of the chief strategic centers of the Confederacy. After the capture of Atlanta he continued with Sherman's armies in their splendid march to the sea, cutting a swath across the Empire State of Georgia sixty miles wide, thence went up through the Carolinas, and ended his military career in the Grand Review at Washington. He was discharged with the rank of sergeant in July, 1865, after nearly three years of continuous service. Mr. Amsler is one of the esteemed members of the Grand Army of the Republic in Jasper County, and he and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

JUDSON H. PERKINS. The present clerk of the Jasper County Circuit Court has been identified by residence with Newton and Jasper counties for more than thirty-five years. His career before coming to Indiana was passed largely as a teacher, and in Jasper and Newton counties he was for a long time a successful agriculturist, and for more than twenty years has been a resident of Rensselaer and was engaged in business until his election to his present office. Mr. Perkins is a well informed and courteous official, a master of the details of his office, and has succeeded in his ambition in making the performance of his duties an important factor in the smooth and expeditious administration of justice in his county.

Judson H. Perkins was born in Michigan on a farm near Adrian in Lenawee County May 8, 1847. His parents were Elmeron



and Eliza B. (Church) Perkins, his father a native of Warren County, New York, and his mother of Eastern New York. Elmeron Perkins was a farmer, and became a pioneer of Southern Michigan, settling in Lenawee County of that state about the middle of the decade of the '30s. He continued to live in Michigan until 1856, and then moved out to Grundy County, Illinois, where he died November 19, 1881. Of a family of five children three are still living.

Judson H. Perkins was nine years old when the family went to Illinois, and he grew to manhood in that state. By a good deal of self-sacrifice and hard work he accomplished his early ambition to secure a liberal education. He attended country schools and also the public schools at Morris, Illinois, the Morris Classical Institute, and finished his training in the Illinois State Normal School at Bloomington. In the meantime he had qualified for teaching and for several years alternated between the schoolroom in which he was instructor and the institutions in which he was pursuing his own higher education. For fourteen school years Mr. Perkins did some very able work as a teacher in Illinois, five years of that time being spent as superintendent of the Gardner Public Schools.

On March 31, 1875, he married Miss Ada Brumbach. Four years later, in 1879, he came to Newton County, Indiana, where he had previously purchased land, and began the work of its development and continued as an agriculturist in that county until the spring of 1891. He then sold his Newton County property and moved to Marion Township in Jasper County, where he continued farming until 1893. In that year he came into Rensselaer, and was engaged in the windmill and pump business at the county seat until 1912.

In the meantime, in 1910, Mr. Perkins, who for many years has been interested in local affairs and a figure in local politics, was elected to the office of Circuit Court clerk and took up the active duties of that office in 1912. In 1914 he was reelected, but at this writing has not yet begun his second term. He is a republican, and a member of the Baptist Church.

Mr. and Mrs. Perkins have two children of their own. Stella, wife of Jay W. Stockton of Rensselaer; and Ethel C., who is now deputy clerk under her father. Mrs. Perkins died February 19, 1909. In 1889 they took into their home a small boy, whose adopted name is Samuel G. Perkins and he is still a member of the Perkins household.

**FRANCIS MARION PARKER.** It is now nearly seventy years since the Parker family became identified with Jasper County. They were pioneers in the true sense of the word. When a consideration is had of the effective forces which brought about the county of the present time, a large share of credit must be given to such families as the Parkers. They were here in the log cabin stage of develop-



ment. There were few roads when they came, and they helped to make highways, develop cultivated tracts of land, build better homes, establish schools and churches, and in every way they used their influence to promote what is good and uplifting in a community.

Bunyan Parker, who was the leader of this family into the wilderness of Jasper County, arrived during the late fall of the year 1847 and settled in Gillam Township. With him came his wife and five sons and four daughters. One son had died in infancy in Ohio. Bunyan Parker and wife were both natives of Pennsylvania, were substantial farming people, and had come from the vicinity of Urbana, Ohio, to Indiana. Bunyan Parker was born February 21, 1796, and about 1825 he married Mary Haines, who was born July 27, 1805. When still a boy Bunyan Parker enlisted and served as a soldier in the War of 1812.

After spending one winter in Gillam Township the family moved in the spring of 1848 to Barkley Township, where Bunyan Parker spent the rest of his days until his death on October 22, 1875. He and his family had accomplished the journey from Ohio to Jasper County by horses and wagons. He had always lived in a wooded country, and like many of the early settlers he could not believe that the prairie land was equal in fertility and other advantages to that which was covered by a heavy forest growth. Therefore on settling in Barkley Township he located in the midst of the woods, and cleared off many acres to convert it into a farm. He was a typical pioneer, hard working and thrifty. He had an inherent horror of debt, and what he could not buy he usually did without. Honest to the cent, as was the usual case of most of the early settlers, he commanded universal respect. He was an ideal neighbor and was helpful in every form of individual distress in the community. Of his children only one is now living. One of the sons, Henry Jackson, served in the Union Army during the Civil war and was fatally wounded at Chickamauga. He was in Company A of the 87th Indiana Volunteer Infantry.

Francis Marion Parker, of Rensselaer, the only surviving child of the late Bunyan Parker and wife, has spent his active career as a prosperous farmer, and has a range of recollection and experience in Jasper County such as is possessed by few living citizens. He was born in Ohio October 20, 1843, and was only four years of age when the family moved to Jasper County. His boyhood days were spent in an intermittent attendance at such public schools as were kept up in this county during the decade of the '50s, but he developed his capacity for hard work by helping to grub, clear, plant and harvest. At the age of twenty-one he started out for himself as a farm hand, but after about a year he returned home owing to the advanced age of his father, and assumed most of the responsibilities about the old homestead.

He continued in that way until he was twenty-five, and then on



November 23, 1868, he married Mahala J. Walker. She was born September 20, 1841, daughter of Samuel Walker. Soon after his marriage Mr. Parker began farming on his own responsibility. That has been his steady vocation down to the present time, though his prosperity and the fruits of many years of well directed labor have enabled him to take life somewhat leisurely. He now owns 413 acres of Jasper County lands, divided into two separate farms. In 1893 Mr. Parker moved to the northern suburbs of Rensselaer, and has since lived there, enjoying the comforts and conveniences of town life and at the same time supervising his farming interests.

Mrs. Parker died December 14, 1913. She was a member of the Christian Church. To their marriage were born five children: Laura, who died in infancy; Korah A., who died April 11, 1906, married Miss Bessie Makeever and had two children; Oren F., a merchant at Rensselaer; Clara E. is the widow of John Andrus, who died November 29, 1912, and their only son John Francis died March 14, 1913; and Wayne Dee died February 27, 1906, when still a young man and while pursuing his studies preparatory to a professional career. Mr. Parker is a member of the Christian Church and in politics is stanchly aligned with the prohibition cause.

**RENSSELAER'S CATHOLIC HISTORY.** In order to afford an appropriate sketch of Catholic institutions in and about Rensselaer liberal use will be made of an article which appeared in the Indiana Catholic and Record of April 30, 1915. While there are a large number of Catholics in and around Rensselaer and St. Augustine's Church and Parish is one of the most flourishing among all the churches of Jasper County, the Catholic people of Indiana think of Rensselaer chiefly for its associations with St. Joseph's College, which was established many year ago by Bishop Dwenger. His purpose was to build up an ideal preparatory seminary for the training of boys for the priesthood, and consequently none but Catholic students have been received in the school. This institution from its beginning has been under the direction of the Fathers of the Precious Blood. Around the college building are beautiful grounds and campus, comprising a large body of land, and there is now a notable group of college buildings, including the college proper, dormitories, chapel, etc.

While the present St. Augustine's parish dates from about 1887, Rensselaer was the center of Catholic activities from a much earlier time. About 1867 Bishop Luers of Fort Wayne organized St. Joseph's Catholic Church as an adjunct of St. Joseph's Orphan Asylum and Manual Labor School. The orphan asylum was conducted until 1887, when the orphans were removed to Lafayette and to Fort Wayne. About nine hundred acres of land were acquired for the asylum and manual labor school. These grounds were situated about a mile from the county seat, and a number of





buildings and other improvements were made, including the original church building.

In July, 1882, Rev. Mathias Zumbuelte began to build the present brick church at Rensselaer, 37x80 feet at a cost of about five thousand dollars. It was completed and dedicated January 18, 1885. At that time the number of souls in the parish was about one hundred fifty. A portion of the present church grounds, six lots, had been bought by Bishop Luers. The first resident pastor was Reverend George L. Willard.

In October, 1888, the bishop gave the Society of the Precious Blood charge of St. Augustine's congregation at Rensselaer. The first of these fathers appointed pastor was Rev. Anthony Dick, C. PP. S., who remained as pastor until July, 1891. After him came Father Stanislaus Neiberg C. PP. S. While he was pastor the church had many improvements, including new windows, new altars, a beautiful chandelier, and the debt of six hundred dollars was discharged. Father Neiberg was also a professor in St. Joseph's College. From September, 1895, until February, 1897, the pastor was Rev. Francis Schalk, C. PP. S. He was succeeded by Rev. Father Bernard Dickmann, C. PP. S., who on account of illness went South. After him came Rev. Edward Jakob, C. PP. S., who remained until June, 1899. Rev. Charles Notheis, C. PP. S., was local pastor for three months, from June to September, 1899. Rev. Thomas Meyer, C. PP. S., was pastor of St. Augustine's until September, 1909. During his pastorate a two story brick schoolhouse was built, being dedicated in August, 1903, by Bishop Alerding. It was opened in September of the same year with about sixty-seven children, and under charge of the Sisters of the Most Precious Blood. In July, 1905, six lots adjoining the church property were bought for \$3,500. The Sisters' residence is on one of these lots. The church grounds now comprise an entire block.

Since September, 1909, the pastor of St. Augustine's has been Rev. Christian Daniel, C. PP. S. Father Daniel has done much constructive work at Rensselaer, and has kept up the cordial relationship which has always existed between the Catholics and non-Catholics of this community. In 1910 the parochial residence was completed, and in the same year a new furnace was installed in the church. In 1912 the school was fitted with new desks, and a number of other improvements have been effected about the church and school property. There are about eighty children enrolled in the school taught by five Sisters of the Precious Blood Order.

St. Joseph's College is one of the institutions of which the people of Jasper County are particularly proud. It has educated many young men now distinctive among the leading clergy and laity of the country. In 1889 Bishop Dwenger of Fort Wayne offered Father Henry Drees, C. PP. S., then Provincial of the Society of the Precious Blood, a tract of land on the edge of the



Big Slough swamps a mile south of Rensselaer on condition that he and his associates would found an institution dedicated perpetually to the training of Catholic youth. Father Henry accepted the offer little thinking that with his word would go many a year of hard toil and expenditure by the Society of the Precious Blood of several hundred thousands of well earned dollars before the quarter century mark of its existence would be passed. Articles of incorporation of St. Joseph's College were filed in the office of the state auditor in the spring of 1889. Stone was secured from a nearby quarry and brick burned on the grounds, and the early stages of this arduous undertaking were entrusted to Father Anthony Dick, C. PP. S., already mentioned as the first pastor of St. Augustine's Parish. The cornerstone of the main building was laid in 1891. Bishop Dwenger, who in the meantime had passed to his reward, did not even see this much of the venture carried into effect. The south wing of the main building was completed during the summer of 1891 by Father Augustine Seifert, C. PP. S., and the institution was opened to fifty-four classical students in the fall of the same year. The needs of the college rapidly outgrew the quarters, and the new north wing was added in 1893, providing space for a large chapel room, an auditorium and a drill room for the military company. The Faculty Building, then known as the Minim Building, was built during the spring and summer of 1897, and opened to classes of junior students in the fall of that year. At that time the total enrollment was one hundred two.

In the summer of 1899 Rev. Augustine Seifert was called away to reorganize the Seminary of the Precious Blood Society and Father Benedict Boebner, C. PP. S., who had previously been an instructor in English and Latin at St. Joseph's and an energetic director of many public activities of the student body, was named president in his stead. During his administration many improvements were made in the college campus, parks and surroundings. Father Augustine returned to the institution as its president in the fall of 1902. The year 1904 saw the erection of a spacious gymnasium to afford the proper space and arrangements for gymnastics, entertainments, rhetoricals and music. The opening of this building in the spring of 1905 was the signal for another large increase in the student body, which during the year reached 200.

In 1907 a large infirmary building, known as Dwenger Hall, was added to the group.

The construction of a beautiful college chapel was undertaken during the years 1898-99. This church is one of the largest and finest devoted exclusively to the student body and other inmates of the institution among the Catholic colleges in the state. During 1911-12 a power plant, electric light plant, waterworks system and underground heating and wiring installation were completed.

In the spring of 1913 Father Augustine after many years of successful and incessant labor resigned as president and was suc-



ceeded in the office by Rev. Hugu Lear, C. PP. S., who has been a member of the faculty since 1899.

Soon after he took charge some extensive alterations were begun in the gymnasium building. The work was nearly completed when the building was destroyed by fire from an unknown cause in the spring of 1914. The Society of the Precious Blood promptly came forward with the funds necessary for rebuilding, and at a cost of over \$120,000 a building nearly twice the size of the one destroyed was opened for use at the beginning of the academic year in 1915. Two gymnasium rooms have been provided, one intended for basketball and other indoor games, 80 feet long by 50 feet wide; and the other intended for permanent fixtures, 40 feet long and 42 feet wide. There are locker rooms and other facilities to accommodate 400 students.

The college auditorium accommodates 800 persons. There is a library with a capacity for 40,000 volumes, a large reading room for both students and professors, play rooms, club rooms, and laboratory facilities to accommodate sixty students working simultaneously. The far-sightedness of the founders of the institution left it with nearly eighty acres of campus, laid out in gardens, parks, ball grounds, tennis courts, tracks, shady nooks and walks. Thousands of trees have been planted on these grounds by the students themselves. A concrete lined pool affords the means for the healthful sports of swimming and skating.

Great as has been the usefulness and influence of St. Joseph's College in the past, it is destined to effect and vitalize the lives of many thousands of Catholic young men who will take their places among the coming generations.

**WILLIAM PERRY BAKER.** One of the pioneer personalities who gave the strength of their character and their industry to the up-building of Jasper County was the late William Perry Baker and the record of his life runs like a thread of honor and integrity through the greater part of Jasper County's history since the time of early settlement. It was not in the conspicuous and abnormal events of the world that he figured, but in the commonplace routine of duty, in the fulfillment of his obligations as a man and citizen, and he deserves an enduring place in this historical record.

It was on Christmas Day, 1913, that William Perry Baker went to his final reward. He was born on a farm near Bucyrus in Crawford County, Ohio, August 14, 1838, and had therefore completed three-quarters of a century of life. His parents were Benajah and Mary (Houk) Baker, and of their nine children only one is still left. In 1852 the family moved from Ohio to Jasper County, Indiana. This county was then sparsely settled, only a comparatively few farms had been broken out from the woods and the prairies, and all life and customs were still on a primitive basis. The Baker family were not rich when they came to Jasper County and their





*Wm P Baker*







C. F. Boicourt



Mrs. Irvin Boicourt.



first location was on the farm now owned by Granville Moody. Several years later the father acquired land of his own, and in the more than sixty years since their advent the name has always stood for solid attainments.

Since he was fourteen years of age until his death William Perry Baker was a resident of Jasper County. On May 2, 1856, he married Maria Rees. He was an exceptionally hard working and industrious man. Both he and his wife lived exemplary lives and through their frugality accumulated considerable property. Mr. Baker was one of the old-fashioned characters now fast passing away. With only a limited schooling, he possessed an unusual fund of good practical sense. His marked characteristics were his love of home, his industry and economy, and his rigid and unswerving honesty and his unblemished character as a man and citizen.

Mr. Baker was born May 29, 1844, in Barkley Township of Jasper County, a member of one of the first pioneer families. Her parents were Major John and Eliza G. (Hogue) Rees, who found a home in Barkley Township along with or soon after the coming of the very first settlers. Mrs. Baker grew to womanhood in Jasper County, became one of the early teachers, and was her husband's valuable aid in many of his business transactions. She died October 9, 1914. She was a Presbyterian by early training, but in later life with her husband joined the Methodist Church.

The Rees family was of a mingled Scotch and Welsh ancestry, and in the various generations back as far as record goes there was a minister of the Presbyterian faith in almost regular succession. Eliza G. Hogue, the mother of Mrs. Baker, was of a family that settled in Virginia, probably near Richmond, in colonial days, and she herself was a native of that state. The Hagues became extensive planters and slave owners. Rev. Mr. Hogue, the grandfather of Mrs. Rees, left to each of his children, among other property, two slaves. For forty years or more he had charge of one church in old Virginia.

To Mr. and Mrs. Baker were born two children. The son, Lawrence W., is now a resident in the West. Vivian, the daughter, married Clement Taylor Boicourt, and is now living at Rensselaer, Indiana. She is the mother of three children: Loren Edward, Hillman Eugene and Frances Leona. Mrs. Boicourt is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Clement T. Boicourt was a native of White County, Indiana, born near Wolcott July 15, 1874. He grew to manhood there and received a practical education, having been a graduate of the Wolcott High School. He later entered a dry goods store and continued as a salesman for some time, and it was while engaged as a clerk that he became acquainted with Miss Vivian Baker, to whom he was married on the 3rd of February, 1903. He then engaged in the dry goods business in Wolcott, thus continuing from 1903 to 1914, and closing out the business only on account of ill health. Soon after the death



of his father-in-law, William P. Baker, he moved to Rensselaer with his family, and resided there until his death, May 4, 1915. Mr. Boicourt was a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, which he joined when but ten years of age, and continued as a faithful member. He was a gentleman of the strictest integrity and honor, and was held in the highest esteem by all who knew him, and his friends and acquaintances were many. At his death he left a father, E. J. Boicourt, and a step-mother at Wolcott, also a brother at Beach Wood, Indiana, and his widow and three children.

**FRANK FOLTZ.** There has been a marked tendency in recent years for men to leave the professions and the strenuous walks of commercial endeavor and engage in the "back to the land" movement. This has been the experience of Frank Foltz, who for many years was actively engaged in the practice of law at Rensselaer, but who is now entirely out of the profession and gives the full scope of his energies to the management of several farms in Jasper County. Mr. Foltz may be said to be a farmer to the manner born, and in giving up his profession in favor of agriculture is merely responding to the call of his first love.

Frank Foltz was born July 20, 1859, his birth place being half a mile south of Romney, near LaFayette in Tippecanoe County. His parents were Cyrus and Mary A. (Rogers) Foltz, the former a native of Pennsylvania and the latter of Indiana. Cyrus Foltz was a farmer in Tippecanoe County, moved from there into White County in 1868, lived on a farm south of Wolcott until the spring of 1870, and then moved to Oxford in Benton County, where he engaged in the meat market business. He died at Oxford in 1885.

Frank Foltz was about eleven years old when the family removed to Oxford, and in that village most of his early associations were formed, and under the direction of his father he learned the butcher trade. It was there too that he received the greater part of his scholastic training. While his education has been self acquired in the greater part, it has not been necessarily limited below the standards of liberal accomplishment. For the training which he has found of most value in life Mr. Foltz gives credit to B. F. Johnson, ex-state statistician, and to Judge Simon P. Thompson. His practical career began in 1876, when seventeen years old, as a Benton County farmer. His father bought eighty-three acres three miles north of Oxford as the testing ground for his son's apprenticeship at agriculture, and it should be noted that this land is still part of Mr. Foltz's extensive land holdings. He was engaged in farming there until 1881, and then came to Jasper County to become manager of Judge S. P. Thompson's ranch near what is now Parr. A year later he returned to Oxford, and for several years continued as a farmer in the summer season and taught school during the winter term. Mr. Foltz took up the study of law in the winter of 1884-85 under the direction of Judge S. P. Thompson.



His father died in April, 1885, and in March, 1886, he came with his mother to Rensselaer, where he earned his living as an employe in the office of Judge Thompson and at the same time carried on his legal studies. Admitted to the bar in the spring of 1886, he did his first practice before the courts of the justices of the peace and in the employ of Judge Thompson. When Judge Thompson was elevated to the bench in 1896, Mr. Foltz, Charles G. Spitler and Harry R. Kurrie entered into a partnership under the firm name of Foltz, Spitler & Kurrie. From this firm Mr. Kurrie retired in 1904 and as Foltz and Spitler it continued until January, 1910, when it was dissolved by mutual consent. Mr. Foltz was in an individual practice until July, 1911, at which date he leased his office and spent the next two years in closing up all his engagements and affairs as a lawyer. The last important act in his career as a member of the bar came in 1913 when he sold his law library and law fixtures. Since then he has given his undivided attention to his extensive farming interests. His holdings as a farmer comprise 692 acres of land, divided among four farms, three of which are in Jasper and one in Benton County. Needless to say he is one of the practical and most successful managers of the resources of the soil in Jasper County.

Mr. Foltz is a republican, but has never sought and would never accept a public office. On October 20, 1886, he married Miss Eva Kolb, daughter of Dr. Jonathan Kolb, who was an old time medical practitioner at Oxford, Indiana, until his death. Mrs. Foltz died September 1, 1910. On May 21, 1911, Mr. Foltz married Miss Blanche Hoyes, daughter of George W. and Hester A. (Nowles) Hoyes.

**WILLIAM MEYERS.** The late William Meyers was one of the fine substantial and prosperous citizens of Jasper County. He was of German birth and parentage, had all the thrifty virtues of the fatherland and made a most admirable American citizen. He established his home in Jasper County on March 11, 1872, and before his death his name was associated with the ownership of the most extensive and valuable tract of farming land in the county.

Born in Hanover, Germany, July 5, 1817, he was christened John Friedrich William Meyers, but after coming to America was known simply as William Meyers. Reared and educated in his native country, when twenty-eight, in order to escape the compulsory military duty imposed on all able bodied male citizens, he left the land of his birth and after a six weeks voyage on board a sailing vessel landed at New York City in 1845. He came directly on to Ohio, and for a time was employed as a farm hand near the city of Cincinnati on the banks of the Ohio river, near the town of California. While living there he met and married Mary Dinkleman. With the encouragement and cooperation of a loyal and industrious wife he went on a farm as a renter, and had already





made a considerable advance toward an independent competence when he moved in March, 1872, to Jasper County. Here he invested in land in Walker Township, and in that locality was for the greater part of his remaining years one of the most progressive farmers and stock raisers. By economy and industry he acquired some eight hundred acres of land—and this to a degree that is exceptional—represented entirely the work of his own hands and his intelligent management. William Meyers had come to America without knowledge of language or customs of the New World. He learned to speak and read English by attending a kindergarten class in a Protestant Sunday School. He became an American in every sense of the word, was a law abiding, patriotic citizen, and could ever be depended upon to bear his share towards responsibilities which rest upon a community as a whole and which must be borne by individual citizens. At first he was a democrat, but in 1856 on the birth of the republican party cast his vote for General John C. Fremont, and from that time forward was loyal to the Grand Old Party. William Meyers died in 1899, being then past eighty years of age. His wife had passed away October 2, 1891. Of their nine children six grew to maturity, and four are still living.

Occupying the fifth position among these children of William and Mary Meyers, George F. Meyers was born July 18, 1862, near Cincinnati, Ohio, where were also born his brothers and sisters. He was ten years of age when brought to Jasper County and for more than thirty years has been one of the leading citizens, a teacher, farmer, real estate man and leader in public affairs.

His boyhood days were spent on the home farm, and his body and mind were developed by the duties of the household and the fields and in the meantime he profited by attendance at the district schools. For five terms he had charge of a school in one of the country districts of Jasper County, and in the intervals of this work was also a farmer. Farming was his regular vocation up to 1895, at which time he embarked in the real estate business at Kinman. Since 1902 Mr. Meyers has lived at Rensselaer and is one of the old established and reliable real estate dealers of the city.

For one year he served by appointment as a member of the city council, and in 1909 was elected mayor and gave an administration of that office through the term of four years which is still remembered gratefully by all friends of progress and improvement. Mr. Meyers is a republican. He was married February 16, 1890, to Anna L. Kennedy. Their two children are named Floyd and Nellie.

**WILLIAM I. HOOVER.** The unique honor of being the first democratic sheriff of Jasper County belongs to William I. Hoover of Rensselaer. It is also the consensus of opinion in the county that the office was never filled by a more capable man and in a more capable manner than during the four years of Mr. Hoover's in-





*David H. Geoman*



cumbency. He has grown up in the county, has been known by its citizens all his life, and has a large acquaintance extending into every township. Since leaving office Mr. Hoover has been in business at Rensselaer, but most of his active life was spent as a farmer and stock man.

Born on a farm in Marion Township of Jasper County, February 19, 1870, William I. Hoover is a son of William M. and Nancy J. (Adams) Hoover. Mr. Hoover has two brothers. He grew up in his home township, and spent his youth in assisting in the work of the home farm and in attending neighboring district schools. At the age of twenty-one he started out for himself as a farmer, but made his home with his parents until the age of twenty-six. On June 3, 1896, Mr. Hoover married Miss Alta May Smith, daughter of Jesse Smith. Mr. and Mrs. Hoover then started to make a home for themselves, he having bought 120 acres of land, and for several years conducted his operations as a farmer in conjunction with stock raising.

A democrat in politics, Mr. Hoover has for a number of years been one of the leaders in the party and his own personal popularity has been an important element in the party strength. In 1908 he was the unsuccessful nominee of the democratic party for the office of sheriff, but in 1910 overcame the opposition and won the election from the same rival with whom he had contested the campaign in 1908. Mr. Hoover was elected by a majority of ninety-nine votes, and his election attracted special attention because of the fact that he was the first democrat to have succeeded in getting himself chosen to that position. In 1912 his reelection came with a majority of 599 votes. In 1914 Mr. Hoover was unsuccessful candidate for the office of county treasurer. Since 1912 he has been the resident agent of Rensselaer for the Ford motor car.

Fraternally he is identified with the Knights of Pythias No. 82, the Modern Woodmen of America No. 4412 and the Improved Order of Red Men. Mrs. Hoover is a member of the Christian Church. To their marriage have been born four children: Victor B., Frank Donald, William Emmet, now deceased; and Irene.

DAVID H. YEOMAN. It is doubtful if Jasper County has a more widely and better known citizen than Capt. David H. Yeoman of Rensselaer. It is certain that no one has more interesting associations with Jasper County's history and growth. It will be recalled that members of the Yeoman family including his father and his maternal grandfather were the very first white settlers on the site of the present City of Rensselaer. Captain Yeoman made a splendid record as a soldier in the Civil war and is the present commander of the Grand Army Post at Rensselaer. While for more than half a century he has owned and cultivated a large farm, his name has also been prominent in public affairs, and members of the present generation need not be reminded of his high position and value as a citizen.



On the old Yeoman homestead in Jasper County he was born September 26, 1841, a son of Joseph D. and Sarah (Nowels) Yeoman. Joseph D. Yeoman was born in Fayette County, Ohio, November 17, 1803. He married there Miss Sarah Nowels, a daughter of John Nowels. In the early years of the decade of the '30s Joseph D. Yeoman and John Nowels came to Jasper County, where so far as records are obtainable they were the first permanent white settlers. They located on the present side of Rensselaer, but Joseph Yeoman subsequently moved to Newton Township and still later to what is now Union Township, and in the latter locality converted a tract of Government land into a substantial farm. He died there March 12, 1846. He was one of the most industrious and influential of the very early settlers. His wife had the distinction of being the first white woman to come to Jasper County, and too much could not be said of her courage and fortitude in facing the dangers and privations of life on the extreme frontier. She survived her husband several years. These honored pioneers now rest in the Makeever cemetery. Their children were: Cynthia, who died in childhood; Helen, who was born January 4, 1833, and died October 13, 1860, as the wife of David M. Warne; Thomas J., who was born September 26, 1837, the first white child born within the borders of Jasper County, and died February 17, 1867; David H.; and Sarah who married Frederick J. Lang of Jasper County.

In the wild district of what was then Jasper County David H. Yeoman grew to youth and manhood. From boyhood he was fond of outdoor life and all the pursuits and activities of the new and undeveloped country in which he was born. He attended one of the old fashioned log schoolhouses. Its floor was made puncheon, the seats were slab benches supported by pins, and the instruction was strictly limited to the three R's. There were few men or women either in that period who led the sedentary life of modern people, and book learning and culture were not so valuable as they are now considered. While Mr. Yeoman had only the bare essentials of a literary education, he learned and practiced all the arts of the free life of the farmer and hunter. He showed unusual skill as a hunter, and shot many deer and other kinds of wild game in Jasper County.

It was this training no doubt that made him a good soldier when his country needed him. Early in the war he enlisted in the Forty-eighth Indiana Regiment, fought at the battles of Shiloh and Iuka, and then after about a year of service was discharged on account of disability at Corinth. Returning home he assisted in organizing a company of Home Guards, in which he was first lieutenant and drill master. Soon afterwards he assisted Edwin P. Hammond, afterwards colonel of the Eighty-seventh Regiment, and still later honored as a member of the Indiana judiciary, in recruiting a regiment. He went to the front with the new regiment, the Eighty-seventh, and became first lieutenant of its Company A. This regi-





ment took part in some of the great campaigns which finally brought the war to a close in the western part of the Confederacy. He was in the Atlanta campaign, the 100 days' fighting, and from Atlanta followed Sherman to the sea, cutting a swath through the Cracker State sixty miles wide, being with the Fourteenth Army Corps. At the close of the war on account of his services he received the brevet rank of captain. After participating in the Grand Review at Washington, one of the grandest military parades given in the history of the United States, he was mustered out in June, 1865, and was soon afterward at home and actively resuming the quiet routine of agricultural life.

The old Yeoman homestead which Captain Yeoman cultivated for some years finally came into his possession, and it was the basis for his business career, and in the old home he reared his children and gathered about him the many friends who hold him in such esteem. His farming operations were for a number of years conducted on nearly 600 acres of land.

On October 5, 1865, soon after he returned from the army, Captain Yeoman married Miss Mary E. Morris, daughter of James T. and Elizabeth (Hershman) Morris. The Morris family came to Jasper County in 1851, and James T. Morris died here in April, 1895, being survived by his widow. Mrs. Yeoman died October 4, 1910, and is now at rest in the Weston Cemetery. To their marriage were born eight children, as follows: Elpha L.; Dallas M.; Victor P.; Daisy D.; James F.; Harriett M.; David V.; and Etta B. Harriett is the wife of Albert Hopkins, of Rensselaer, and she is a member of the Daughters of the American Revolution. Etta B., who was born in 1873, died February 6, 1895.

Captain Yeoman is now the oldest member of the Masonic Lodge at Rensselaer. He and his family were formerly members of the Methodist Church, but now belong to the First Presbyterian Church. He has at various times taken a very active part in local organizations. He served as president of the Jasper County Agricultural Society, as a member of the State Board of Agriculture, and was formerly prominent in Grange movements and was president of the State Alliance. As a soldier he was aligned with the great political party which carried off the principles for which the war was fought, but when that program had been effected he found himself more in line with other political ideas. In 1884 he was a candidate for the State Legislature on the democratic ticket. In 1892 he was candidate for Congress as a populist. In 1898 he was democratic candidate for joint representative of Jasper and Lake counties. In all these campaigns, while he was on the minority ticket, he showed such exceptional strength that he led his ticket by a large number of votes.

MARION L. SPITLER. Probably no one name has been for a longer time and with more of the honors that come from useful



service identified with Jasper and Newton Counties than that of Spitler. They came to this section of Indiana nearly eighty years ago. Their original home was Virginia, and from that state they brought the hospitable traits which have always distinguished the family. In the different generations the members have been upright and conscientious citizens, have made creditable business records, have also figured in the professions, and have performed their share of both military and civil service.

The late Marion L. Spitler, who died at Rensselaer on November 19, 1899, was the type of citizen whose career well deserves record in this publication. He was born in Warren County, Indiana, March 12, 1836, and was a son of George W. Spitler, the founder of the family in this section of Indiana. George W. Spitler was a Virginian, and came West and after looking over the lands of different sections finally located at what is now known as Beaver City in Newton County, Indiana. That was during the decade of the '30s. He had married back in Ohio, Malinda Hirschman, and they had three children that reached maturity: Marion L., Thomas J. and Virginia, the latter becoming the wife of Judge E. P. Hammond of Lafayette. George W. Spitler was one of the foremost figures of his day in Newton and Jasper counties. When Jasper County was created by separation from Newton he moved to Rensselaer, the new county seat, and lived there the rest of his days. He held various county offices, and among other attainments was a sound lawyer. He was killed by lightning in August, 1863. His two sons spent all their lives in Jasper County.

Marion L. Spitler grew up in Rensselaer, and acquired his primary education in the public schools and then entered the noted old Indiana institution, Wabash College, from which he was graduated in 1854, with the degrees Bachelor of Arts and Master of Arts. For a time he was an educator, and also clerked in the store of Isaac D. Stackhouse in Rensselaer. He was the member of the family who made a military record which will always be prized by his descendants. During the Civil war he was a lieutenant in Company A of the 87th Indiana Volunteer Infantry, and when he left the army was first lieutenant. From the army he returned home, and in 1868 was elected county clerk of Jasper County and served two terms of four years each. He also served a term in the State Legislature. On leaving the office of the county clerk he entered a partnership with Simon P. and David J. Thompson in the practice of law and in handling real estate. In 1896, when Simon P. Thompson was elected to the bench, Mr. Spitler retired from the active cares of life. He was a commanding figure in Jasper County, was often sought for advice, and inherited from his father the fine hospitality which always characterized his home life. His father before him was a democrat, but Marion Spitler after coming out of the war allied himself with the republican interests. He was generous to a fault, and kind and courteous at all times.



Marion L. Spitler married Mary E. Burnham, who was born in the State of Maine, and they first became acquainted in Kansas. To their marriage were born nine children, and the four now living are: Marian E., wife of Ferman B. Leaming; Charles G.; Maude E.; and Marion L., who is now living in Oklahoma City. Mr. Spitler like his father before him, was affiliated with the Masons Lodge No. 125 and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows No. 143.

Charles G. Spitler, who continues the family relationship in Jasper County to the third generation, was born at Rensselaer February 18, 1868, and his schooling ended with the high school. At the age of nineteen he entered his father's abstract office, and has been chiefly identified with that line of business ever since. He now has the only complete set of abstract books in Jasper County. In politics Mr. Spitler is a republican, and has served many years as city councilman and on November 13, 1913, was elected mayor, a position he still holds, giving an efficient administration to the municipal affairs of that progressive little city. He is secretary and treasurer of the Commercial Club and in Masonry has attained the thirty-second degree of the Scottish Rite and is also affiliated with the Knights of Pythias Castle Hall No. 82.

On April 1, 1886, Charles G. Spitler married Mildred B. Powell, daughter of John W. Powell, who is remembered as a former sheriff of Jasper County and is now living at Washington, D. C. Mr. and Mrs. Spitler have three children: Mildred E., wife of Delos M. Coen of South Bend; Woodhull I.; and Elizabeth V., wife of Horace M. Clark. Mr. Charles G. Spitler for years has been clerk of sales all over the county. He and his wife and children are members of the Presbyterian Church.

Woodhull I. Spitler, who was born December 14, 1887, is a graduate of the State University of Wisconsin, and is now associated with his father in the abstract, real estate and other lines of business. He was married September 2, 1913, to Edna M. Hauser.

EDWARD C. ENGLISH, M. D. The practical work and the influence of a capable physician are not to be measured by the ordinary standards of individual accomplishment. No profession has greater opportunities for real service to humanity, and though the work of the real doctor cannot be displayed by the same symbols which measure performance in the other industries and arts, it is nevertheless of such great human importance that it cannot be too frequently emphasized. During the past twenty years one of the men who have worked conscientiously and with a high degree of skill in the performance of their duties as physicians and surgeons in Jasper County is Dr. Edward C. English.

The name of Dr. English has become familiar to an ever widening circle of friends and patients since he first opened his office at Rensselaer in April, 1896. He was born February 14, 1861,



at Danville, Illinois, a son of Joseph G. and Mary (Hicks) English. His father was one of the most prominent bankers at Danville, and for many years served as president of the First National Bank of that city from its organization in 1863. He was also a member of the State Board of Equalization of Illinois and well known over the State as a banker and citizen. He died at Danville in 1910 at the age of eighty-nine.

Dr. English was reared in his home city, and his training in the public schools was supplemented by a course at the Illinois Wesleyan College in Bloomington, from which he was graduated in 1884 with the degree Bachelor of Science. Then followed several years of varied occupation and experience, principally in the western states. In 1891 he took up the study of medicine under Dr. M. S. Brown at Danville and in the same year matriculated at Rush Medical College in Chicago, where he was graduated M. D. in 1895. This preliminary training in one of the best known schools of medical instruction in the country was supplemented by one year as interne in the Wabash Railway Hospital at Moberly, Missouri, after which he came to Rensselaer, where for many years he has been in the front rank of physicians and surgeons in Jasper County. He is a member of the Jasper and Newton Counties Medical societies and the State Medical Society and also the American Medical Association.

Fraternally his affiliations are with the Masonic order, Prairie Lodge No. 125, the Knights of Pythias, Castle Hall No. 82, and the Modern Woodmen of America, Camp No. 4412. In politics he is a republican. Dr. English has given some capable service as county health officer for four years, was for seven years on the County Board of Charities, and for a similar time was a member of the City School Board at Rensselaer.

On September 11, 1889, Doctor English married Lucy Belle Brown of Danville, Illinois. They have two sons, Walter M. and Harry E. Doctor English and wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church and he is one of the trustees of the organization at Rensselaer.

CLARK MCCOLLY AND BENJAMIN D. MCCOLLY. While the McColly family was not identified with Jasper County in its earliest pioneer development, it has lived there and has made its influence and activities felt in many useful ways for nearly half a century. The late Clark McColly was one of the good and upright men of his generation, and did much to make the name respected in this county. Recently the citizens called his son, Benjamin D., from the ranks of private life to become sheriff of Jasper County, an office in which his service is more than a justification of the confidence expressed in his ability by his many friends and political followers.

The late Clark McColly was born in Clark County, Ohio, May





24, 1818, of Scotch-Irish ancestry. He grew to manhood in Ohio and received a good practical education, so that when still in his teens he was engaged as a teacher. In Ohio he married Mary Hance, and soon after that event, with his wife and with his parents, Willis and Phoebe McColly, he removed to Delaware County, Indiana, where his parents spent the remainder of their lives. Clark McColly became a substantial farmer in Delaware County, and that he was well known there is indicated by the fact that he was elected sheriff of the county in 1852. After one term of two years he was re-elected, and held the office four years. It was in 1867 that Clark McColly brought his family to Jasper County, locating six miles north and west of Rensselaer in Marion Township. Later in 1870 he moved to Bartley Township, where he had bought 160 acres. The greater part of his remaining years were spent in that locality but he died at his home eight miles north and west of Rensselaer. Clark McColly is perhaps best remembered in Jasper County for his many years of capable service as justice of the peace. He possessed a considerable knowledge of the law, and was admitted to the bar, although he was not a lawyer in the present sense of the term. "Squire" McColly, as he was generally known, settled more cases out of court than in. By natural endowment he possessed the judicial temperament and his practical sense and his judgment of fairness led him to be often called in to settle minor or even greater disputes arising in the community. Physically he was a little less than the medium build, but was energetic in everything he undertook, an admirable neighbor, kind and considerate. He was unusually well informed, and whenever he expressed an opinion it was invariably based upon good sense and sound judgment. In religious belief he was a Universalist, and in politics first affiliated with the whig and later with the republican party. For many years he belonged to the Masonic fraternity, and was an ardent believer in its principles and teachings. His death occurred in 1895, survived by his widow until 1904. To them were born a family of thirteen children, seven of whom are still living.

Benjamin D. McColly, who has spent the greater part of his life in Jasper County, was born in Delaware County, Indiana, October 25, 1863, and was only four years of age when brought to Jasper County by his parents. He grew up on a farm, and his education came from the district schools. When twenty years old he started out for himself and for three or four years made himself useful and at the same time gained much practical experience as clerk in different stores. On April 20, 1889, he married Melvina E. Abbott, daughter of Abraham and Sarah E. (Abbott) Abbott.

After his marriage Mr. McColly followed farming for a time, and from 1892 to 1896 was deputy sheriff of Jasper County under C. W. Hanley, the present judge of the 30th Judicial Circuit. Following his term as deputy sheriff Mr. McColly lived at Chicago Heights, Cook County, Illinois, until 1912, and for the greater part



of that time was salesman for a bridge concern. On returning to Jasper County he located at Rensselaer and continued in bridge work until called to his present position. He was elected sheriff in the general election of 1914, and began his official duties early in 1915.

Mr. McColly is a republican. To his marriage have been born four children: Ethel C.; Nellie, wife of Carl Heinz; Harry and Walter Delos.

JAY WESLEY WILLIAMS. There are some men who, when they die, a whole community mourns; who leave behind a fragrant memory of good deeds and kindly words, to be long treasured in the heart after they have passed away. Such a man was the late Jay W. Williams of Rensselaer, Jasper County, Indiana, whose period of earthly existence came to an end November 17, 1908, he being then in his sixty-fourth year. Mr. Williams was born in Marion, Ohio, April 14, 1845, his parents being Judge Joseph J. and Jane S. (Beatty) Williams. He was reared and educated in the public schools of his native city and after graduation from the high school taught for one term. He then learned the tinner's trade in Marion, serving a three years' apprenticeship. It was during the war, in 1864, that he went to Nashville, Tennessee, to work at his trade, but after twenty days' stay there he returned to Ohio and enlisted in Company B, One Hundred and Thirty-sixth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, on May 2, 1864, being mustered in May 12th. Two days later he was sent to the front. His military service, however, was short, as, owing to ill health, he was mustered out August 31, of the same year. Upon recovering his health he went to Logansport, Indiana, in December, 1864, and there worked at his trade until he went into the hardware business in that city, in company with his brother, John B., who had also served in the war and was a commissioned officer, having been made captain. In July, 1868, he moved to Kentland, Newton County, Indiana, and was there engaged for a number of years in the hardware business. While a resident of that city he was married, June 29, 1871, to Miss Cordelia Makeever, who was born in the little log cabin home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Makeever, in Newton Township, Jasper County, Indiana, April 29, 1846. In April, 1883, Mr. Williams moved to Rensselaer, Jasper County, and embarked in the banking business with his father-in-law, Mr. Makeever. Later he added the furniture business to his regular occupation of banking. In the meanwhile he acquired large real estate holdings, to which he devoted a considerable part of his time, especially after he and Mr. Makeever had retired from banking. A republican in politics, Mr. Williams served as a member of the county council in 1903 and 1905, and at the time of his death was a member of the city council. He was a Royal Arch Mason, a Knight of Pythias and a member of the Grand Army of the Republic. When but a small boy he joined the Methodist Church,





Jay Williams



of which he was to the close of his life an earnest and active member, for years holding official positions therein, and was superintendent of the Sunday school for seventeen years. Kind, courteous and obliging, a Christian in the true sense of the word, he was one who commanded universal respect and esteem. He and his wife were the parents of one daughter, Mary Jane, who is now the wife of Charles H. Porter of Rensselaer.

JOHN C. MARTINDALE. Death removed one of the conspicuous citizens of Jasper County when John C. Martindale died on October 8, 1912. For many years he had taken an active part in the public affairs of the county, and in his private industry was a highly successful farmer.

One of a family of twelve children, five of whom are yet living, John C. Martindale was born on a farm near Pine village in Warren County, Indiana, December 25, Christmas Day, 1846. His parents were Samuel and Elizabeth (Mahuron) Martindale, who were natives of Pennsylvania but gave to their children an inheritance of Scotch and Irish ancestry. In the very early days of Warren county settlement they moved from Pennsylvania, making the trip overland in the old Conestoga wagon, and were the first to make homes in their locality of Warren County. On the pioneer homestead of his parents John C. Martindale grew to manhood and acquired from his early associations and training those rugged qualities which persisted throughout his life and proved the basis of a noble and worthy career. He worked at home, gained such education as the district schools of his time could bestow, and when about twenty-five years of age took the important step of marriage and the responsibilities of making a home not only for himself but for others.

On September 18, 1871, Mr. Martindale married Teresa Benjamin, a daughter of Jared Benjamin, a sketch of whom as one of the early settlers of Jasper County is found elsewhere in this publication. About 1879 Mr. and Mrs. Martindale moved to Jasper County to make this their permanent home, and located on a farm in Newton Township. Possessing an indomitable energy, Mr. Martindale threw himself with vigor into the improvement of his land and into all matters pertaining to the general good. By his industry, self-denial and intelligent management he acquired 240 acres of some of the best land in Jasper County. It was his reputation for practical good sense and natural ability as well as his standing in his home community that led to his election as a member of the county board for two terms. During his service as commissioner he was largely instrumental in the construction of the new court house of which Jasper County people are proud and which as long as it remains will be an enduring monument to Mr. Martindale's honesty and good business judgment. In the disbursement of all the monies required in the building of this structure





not one word has ever been said except in praise of Mr. Martindale's connection therewith. For a number of years he also served as a member of the county council. In the fall of 1908 he removed to Rensselaer, though continuing to devote his attention to his extensive farming interests until his death. Mrs. Martindale is still living in Rensselaer, and has the comfort and solace of her two children, named Jared B. and Nina D. Jared B. was for two years a student in the Rensselaer High School, after which he entered and completed the course in the High School at Danville, Indiana, and graduated from the State Normal at Terre Haute with the class of 1898. For three years he was then employed as a teacher, two years of the time serving as principal of a school in Indiana. Leaving the school room, he was for nine years engaged as a postal clerk on the Monon Railroad, and is now employed in the post office department, as route agent from Rensselaer, where he resides. He married Miss Ora Donaldson, of Vigo County, Indiana, and they have two daughters, Thelma M. and Maxine F. He is a republican in political affiliations and a member of the Knights of Pythias fraternity. Mrs. Martindale is a member of the Christian Church. Nina D., the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John C. Martindale, graduated from the Rensselaer High School with the class of 1902, and entering the State University at Bloomington in the following year graduated in the literary course in 1910. After three years of teaching in Indiana she was offered a position as teacher at Spokane, Washington, but gave up the position on account of the illness of her father, and resides at home with her mother in Rensselaer.

Few men have lived in Jasper County who exerted a better moral influence in the community than the late John Martindale. His life was clean and upright throughout—one that commanded respect from all sources. His religion was the Golden Rule and few men have succeeded in practicing that fundamental principle of right living more effectually than John C. Martindale.

**JARED BENJAMIN.** The foundation of the prosperity which all residents of Jasper County now enjoy was substantially laid many years ago by the type of pioneers of which one of the best representatives was the late Jared Benjamin, who died at Rensselaer August 16, 1906.

His ancestry as well as his individual character and training well fitted him for the pioneer task which he undertook when he came to Jasper County. He was born October 10, 1820, in Fayette County, Ohio, a son of Jared Benjamin, while his mother belonged to the Yeoman family, a name which is likewise distinctive among the settlers of Jasper County. His two grandfathers, William Benjamin and Stephen Yeoman, served the colonies in their struggle for independence against Great Britain, and both made records which are properly a matter of pride to their descendants. Wil-



liam Benjamin was present at the surrender of Burgoyne's army to General Gates and afterwards became owner of the house which the British had used as a hospital and which is still owned by one of his descendants. Stephen Yeoman, owing to his intense loyalty to the colonial cause, drew down upon himself the especial enmity of his Tory neighbors, and he suffered almost inhuman persecution at their hands.

In 1838 when eighteen years old, Jared Benjamin came to Jasper County, and secured a tract of land in Newton Township for which he paid the government a dollar and a quarter an acre. For a period of fifty-three years he lived on that land, and succeeded in converting it from an expanse of marsh, prairie and woods into fruitful fields and one of the most desirable farms in the entire county. He was also active in public affairs and highly esteemed for his many admirable qualities of mind and heart. In 1891 he removed to Rensselaer, and lived at the county seat until his death.

On September 10, 1848, Mr. Benjamin married Miss Lettie Halstead, who is still living at Rensselaer and is now in advanced years. She was one of the early teachers of Laporte County. For one term of school she was paid wages amounting to twenty dollars and because she invested this in a cook stove, one of the first introduced into the county, it was freely predicted by some that her extravagance would involve her husband in financial ruin. The prophecy was never fulfilled, and throughout her life her independence of character was one of her best characteristics. To the marriage of Jared Benjamin and wife were born four daughters; Mary and Clarissa, who died in early childhood in 1858 from "milk sickness;" Teresa E., the widow of John C. Martindale; and Mattie.

ALBERT J. BELLOWES. Among Jasper County's citizens whose well directed efforts have contributed to the development of the county, one whose career is a reflection of intelligent industry, devotion to the best interests of the community, is Albert J. Bellows, who for forty-five years has lived in this county and is now retired from the more active cares of life at Rensselaer. His career has brought him substantial prosperity and the respect and esteem of his fellow citizens, and his record is one of which his descendants will be justly proud.

Of New England birth and ancestry, with an ancestral line connecting him directly with a soldier of the war for independence, his birth occurred in New Hampshire October 31, 1843. He is the only survivor of a family of ten children born to the marriage of John W. Bellows and Melissa Ames. Mr. Bellows' grandfather was Isaac Bellows, and going back still another generation his great-grandfather was one of the patriots who helped to win independence for the thirteen American colonies. John W. Bellows, the father, was born in 1807, and was by occupation a farmer. In



1852 he moved with his family to Massachusetts, and from there in 1857, came west, locating in Kankakee County, Illinois.

With an education acquired partly by attendance at the schools of Massachusetts and partly in those of Kankakee County, Albert J. Bellows came to manhood in the latter state and locality, having been well trained to farm-life through his early experiences in assisting his father in the work of clearing, planting and harvesting. Few of the boys of his generation had opportunities for a liberal education, and his own schooling was confined to the advantages offered by the country schools. He gained a much more rugged and practical training in what might be called the school of "hard knocks," and has also been a man who keeps in close touch with the world by reading and observation. It was with mature deliberation and as a result of his inherent love for the land of free republican institutions that he volunteered his services during the closing years of the Civil war to the Federal government. For more than two years he was a member of Company K in the Fourth Illinois Cavalry, receiving his honorable discharge in 1866. His regiment while he was a member of it saw little of active fighting, since the war was already drawing to a close, and his duties were largely those of guarding the Federal positions in the South and Southwest, particularly in Texas, where he was stationed with the Federal troops for a number of months after the actual close of hostilities. On returning from the army to Kankakee County, he engaged in farming several years, and in 1870 removed to Jasper County.

For thirty-four years Mr. Bellows has followed farming in Carpenter Township, and the fruits of his labors during those years finally enabled him to retire to Rensselaer in 1906, and he has since spent most of his time in more or less nominal supervision of his interests. On September 21, 1876, he married Miss Jennette Dunbar. She was born in Florida, but her parents, Asaph and Mary (Doolittle) Dunbar, were of New England birth and ancestry. Her father was a contractor and it was for business reasons that he moved South. Mr. and Mrs. Bellows are the parents of two children: Mary Melissa, now Mrs. Charles Murphy of Berwyn, Illinois; and Edward, who married Ona Wilson, and is a farmer in Carpenter Township. In politics Mr. Bellows is a stalwart republican, having cast his first vote for President Lincoln in his second campaign during the war, and having supported the candidates of the Grand Old Party regularly for more than fifty years. He and his wife are members of the Presbyterian church at Rensselaer.

**DENNIS O'RILEY.** By the appointment of Dennis O'Riley to the position of postmaster at Remington, a worthy honor was conferred upon a citizen who has been identified with that town and





*Dennis, O'Riley*





its business life for the past twenty years, and who in all his relations has been straightforward, capable and public spirited.

He was born at Van Wert, Ohio, February 5, 1868, a son of Daniel and Helen (Driscoll) O'Riley. Both parents were born in Ireland, and his father, who died in 1890, became a railroad man after coming to America, and for a number of years was a mail clerk between Crestline, Ohio, and Fort Wayne, Indiana. His body now rests in the cemetery at Delphos, Ohio. Of his children the three still living are Dennis; Ellen, the wife of John Flynn, of Lima, Ohio; and Daniel, Jr., who lives at Greentown, Indiana, and is deputy gas inspector.

The home of Dennis O'Riley was at Van Wert, his birthplace, until he was about twenty years of age. In the meantime he had attended the country schools and he then completed his education by a one year course in the Ohio Northern University at Ada. Mr. O'Riley is a baker by trade, has rendered his best service to the various communities in which he has lived by furnishing excellent food products. For about one year he was in the restaurant and bakery business at Ada, then moved to Frankfort, Indiana, followed his trade there for a short time, and his next location was at Flora, Indiana. Mr. O'Riley learned the baker's trade while in his native Town of Van Wert.

While at Flora on May 4, 1891, he married Miss Lucy Ferguson, daughter of John and Amanda Ferguson. There were two children by their marriage: Ralph, who is in the bakery business at Rensselaer and married Carrie Dedrech; and Keith D., who is a carpenter at Greencastle, Indiana. The mother of these children died at Remington, but was laid to rest at her old home town, Flora.

After three years at Flora, Mr. O'Riley moved to Remington in the summer of 1893, and resumed his trade as a baker under C. W. Horner. He and S. W. Rawlings bought the Horner establishment in November, 1896, and they continued it together for three years. It was sold in 1899 to W. C. Hallahan, after which Mr. O'Riley was baker for Fred Love for two years, then spent six months in a bakery at Greentown, Indiana, and returned to his trade in Remington in the fall of 1905. He continued actively in the same line of business until his appointment as postmaster.

Mr. O'Riley entered upon his duties in the Remington post-office March 10, 1914, and every patron of that office has had reason to be thoroughly well satisfied with his administration. This is a third class postoffice, with four rural routes radiating from the town.

On July 6, 1894, at Remington, Mr. O'Riley married for his present wife Janie Shearer, a native of Jasper County. Her parents, Robert and Carrie (Undershot) Shearer were early settlers in White County and are yet living. Mr. and Mrs. O'Riley have one child, Helen V., still at home. She is a graduate of Remington High School, class 1914, and is now her father's assistant in the postoffice.

\* REMINGTON



Mrs. O'Riley is a member of the Ladies' Aid Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

In politics he has been an active democrat, and was a member of the Remington Town Board for nearly thirteen years, and that was the only official position to which he ever aspired. His service on the town board continued until a short time prior to his appointment as postmaster. He is past chancellor of the Remington Lodge of the Knights of Pythias, Castle Hall No. 58; is a member of Remington Lodge No. 351, of the Masonic order in the same place, and is present master, and is also affiliated with the Modern Woodmen of America, Camp No. 4608. Mr. O'Riley owns some property in Remington and is one of its most substantial citizens.

WILLIAM H. BERRY. Shrewd business ability, capacity for persevering labors, appreciation of the many advantages of his vocation and belief in his own power to achieve success, has combined to make William H. Berry a successful man, and as such he is regarded in Jasper County, which has been his home for the greater part of the past fifteen years. He is the owner of one of the fine farms in that excellent agricultural district of Jasper County known as Marion Township.

His life has been spent in many states and amid varied scenes. His birth occurred in the old Pine Tree State of Maine on August 11, 1858. His father, Sabin J. Berry, was for a number of years a sailor on the Atlantic ocean. During the Civil war the vessel on which he sailed was captured by the famous Confederate cruiser Alabama, not long before the close of the war and before the close of the history of the Alabama, which shortly afterwards was engaged in battle and sunk by the Kearsarge. After being taken from the merchant vessel he was carried to England and finally made his way back to the United States. Apparently this was sufficient experience as a sailor, and he soon afterwards took up farming and moved to the Middle West, locating in LaSalle County, Illinois. He farmed in that county one year, then spent three years as a farmer in Tipton County, Iowa, returned to LaSalle County, and for seventeen years lived on a farm in Iroquois County, Illinois. He finally removed to Tennessee, where he died in 1889. The maiden name of his wife was Isabel King, and of their four children two are now living.

The second child of the oldest son in his father's family, William H. Berry spent most of his early life in Illinois at home with his parents. His boyhood was spent in attending the district schools and in doing such work as he was able on the home farm, and when twenty-one he started out to make his own way in the world as a farm renter. Two years later, he was able from the proceeds of his hard work and economy, to buy eighty acres of land in Iroquois County, Illinois. He subsequently removed to Fayetteville, Alabama, was a merchant there two years and for the following four



years was in similar business lines at Bessemer, Alabama. Returning to Iroquois County he again resumed farming, and was also engaged in trading and merchandising for three years.

Mr. Berry first came to Indiana in 1898, locating in White County, where he had a farm near Monon for two years. In 1900 he moved to Jasper County, lived here five years, but failing health caused him to remove to Owen County, where he was a merchant five years. Since returning to Jasper County he has given his time and attention to the operation of his fine farm of 243 acres in Marion Township.

In his political attitude Mr. Berry is a republican, and he and his wife are members of the Presbyterian church. On May 26, 1886, he married Miss Flora E. Lindley of Iroquois County, Illinois, daughter of Enoch and Malinda (Bales) Lindley. Her parents were Quaker people and substantial Illinois farmers. To their marriage has been born one son, Raymond L., who married Miss Carrie Gwin and is living at Danville, Illinois. They have one little daughter, Jannis.

**ISAAC NEWTON WARREN.** It is now fully sixty-five years since the Warren family became identified with Jasper County, and members of three successive generations have contributed the fruits of their character, experience, and ability to the life of the community. In the earlier generations were practical pioneers, who did their part in converting a portion of the wilderness into farms, and few families gave more of its members to the northern armies during the Civil war. Isaac Newton Warren, who represents the third generation, has been chiefly identified with the educational interests of this section, was for a number of years superintendent of city schools of Rensselaer, and now is engaged in a successful enterprise as a manufacturer of tile and building blocks at his home two miles north of the county seat. His services in all the relations of life have been such as to establish for him a reputation for ability, resourcefulness and thorough public spirit.

Born on a farm in Marion Township of Jasper County October 30, 1869, Isaac N. Warren is a son of the late John Wesley Warren. The latter was born in Ohio in 1834 and at the age of sixteen was brought to Jasper County by his parents, Samuel and Rhoda Warren. Samuel Warren on coming to Jasper County in the early days located on a part of Section 13 about two miles Northwest of Rensselaer, lived there for a number of years, but subsequently moved into town and died there. He was a fine type of the early settler both as regards his activities and his character. In addition to farming he also worked at the cooper's trade to a considerable extent, and made a number of chairs and baskets which were used among the early settlers. In his habits he was thoroughly domestic, was unobtrusive and never sought public notice, though his character was such as to command respect by



all who knew him. He and his wife had twelve children, all of whom reached maturity. It is one of the many honorable distinctions associated with this family name that practically all his six sons as well as the husbands of his four married daughters saw service in the Union army during the Civil war. Thus during the war times, though he was a man in advanced years, there fell upon him a great deal of responsibility in looking after the interests of his children. His descendants relate that when the family lived in Ohio, where all his children were born, Samuel Warren, after the day's work was done on the farm, would sit down on his bench and cobble hides into shoes while the mother would card, spin and weave material for the old-fashioned homespun clothing. As a result of this experience Samuel Warren was well equipped for his duties as a pioneer in Jasper County.

John Wesley Warren, one of his sons, spent all his life on the farm. His ambition seemed to be to provide for the future of his children. No matter how urgent the work of the farm became and how greatly he was pressed for time and energy to attend to his duties, his children were never kept out of school in order to assist him. As a result his children all were well educated and became teachers. John W. Warren married Mrs. Rhoda (Coen) Sayers, a widow with one child. They had four sons and two daughters. John W. Warren died on his homestead west of Rensselaer in 1899. His first wife had passed away in 1878 and in 1887 he married Alice Hendricks, who became the mother of two children. Some years after the death of her husband Mrs. Warren, in 1913, married Mr. Kellogg and now lives in Lafayette.

Isaac Newton Warren spent his youth and early manhood on the old farm in Jasper County, and during that time gained a public school education, and in 1891 graduated from the Rensselaer High School. In the meantime while pursuing his studies at Rensselaer he taught school one term, and immediately after his graduation took a position as a teacher in the grades at Rensselaer, remaining one term. In 1892 Mr. Warren entered the State University at Bloomington, from which he was graduated in 1897. In the meantime he had paid most of his expenses through university by teaching. He spent one year in Chicago and one year as principal of the high school at Sheridan. In the fall of the year following his graduation from university he became principal of the Rensselaer High School, remaining one year, and was then principal of the high school at LaPorte, Indiana, four years. The next three years were spent as principal of the Fort Dodge High School in Iowa. In 1905 Mr. Warren returned to Rensselaer to become superintendent of the city schools, and it was his seven years in that capacity which has made his name best known in this community. In that time he did a great deal to raise the standards of the local schools, improve the facilities and adapt their work to the needs of a modern twentieth century community. Since leaving the schoolroom Mr.





Warren has been engaged in the manufacture of tile and building blocks, and in that connection looks after the management of his attractive little farm home of forty acres two miles north of Rensselaer.

On August 30, 1896, Mr. Warren married Alice Irwin. They are the parents of five children: Russell; Stuart; Carroll who died at the age of eight years; Howard; and Mary Alice. In politics Mr. Warren is a republican, and is affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. Both he and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal church.

**ALTON GRANT.** The winning of a comfortable prosperity after many struggles with fortune, and the establishment and provision for a home and place as an honored and influential citizen of his community, is short measure of the accomplishment of Alton Grant, who for a great many years has been identified with Jasper County as a resident of Marion Township. Mr. Grant, who has long since passed the psalmist's span of three score and ten, owns and resides upon a farm of eighty acres. For a period of sixty-five years he has witnessed the growth and development of this part of Jasper County, and has himself been a not uninterested and inactive participant in local affairs.

This well known old citizen was born in Wabash County, Indiana, at Lafontaine, July 3, 1839, a son of Daniel and Rebecca R. (Hale) Grant, the former of Scotch and the latter of German ancestry. His parents were married in Kentucky, and after some years of residence in Wabash County they moved in 1850 to Marion Township in Jasper County, where Daniel Grant acquired seven hundred acres of land. He was one of the influential men of his time, and spent the rest of his life in the township. His wife also died there, and both are now at rest in the cemetery at Rensselaer. Daniel Grant followed farming and stock raising, was a republican in politics, but sought no official honors from his party. He was formerly a member of the Christian church and later belonged to the Church of God. He and his wife had ten children, and the three now living are Alton, Shelby and Josephine Warner.

Eleven years of age when the family established a home in Jasper County, Alton Grant had previously attended the common schools of Wabash County, and afterwards gained some further instruction in such schools as existed in Marion Township during the decade of the '50s. He was a young man at the time of the Civil war and gave some service as a member of the Home Guard. His early experiences were all connected with farm life, and he has made that his regular vocation. He lived at home for a number of years, and did not establish a place of his own until he was thirty-five. On January 17, 1875, he married Maggie Dillon, a daughter of Abner and Nancy (Howe) Dillon. To this union were born three children: Charley, who married Millie Shipman;



Garland Hale, who is now active manager of his father's farm in Marion Township; and Josephine Gertrude. The son Garland, who was born in Jasper County August 21, 1879, is making a specialty of the raising and breeding of registered Belgian hares, and is one of the prominent young agriculturists and stock breeders of his community. He is a republican in his political affiliations, and cast his first presidential vote for William McKinley. The mother of these children died October 23, 1909, and is buried at Rensselaer. For more than thirty years they had lived together as man and wife, and she was a most devoted helpmate and her memory will always be cherished by her children and her children's children. She was an active member of the Church of God, and Mr. Grant is also identified with the same denomination. As a republican he has been interested in local affairs, though in the main his life has been spent in quiet accomplishment and upright living. He is a true pioneer of northwestern Indiana, and in the early history of his native county of Wabash he was a frequent visitor to the tepees of the Indians, whose reservation joined his father's farm. His home is on rural route No. 3 out of Rensselaer.

ANDREW HICKS. The honored subject of this memoir established his residence in Jasper County more than forty years ago and he passed the last two decades of his long and useful life in the Village of Remington, an upright citizen of strong mentality and of those kindly attributes of character that invariably beget popular confidence and esteem. The closing period of his life was passed in well earned retirement from the labors and responsibilities that had long rested upon him, and his high standing in the county that so long represented his home renders most consonant the tribute here paid to his memory.

Andrew Hicks was born in Devonshire, England, on the 14th of February, 1835, and was a scion of a family whose name has been identified with that section of the "right little, tight little isle" for many generations. He acquired his rudimentary education in his native land and was a lad of thirteen years when he accompanied his parents on their immigration to America, the family home being established in the Province of Ontario, Canada, where he was reared to manhood on a pioneer farm and where he measureably supplemented his educational discipline, though his later status as a man of broad information and mature judgment was gained largely through self-application and association with the practical affairs of life. In Ontario was solemnized his marriage to Miss Isabella Banes, and thereafter he continued to be identified with agricultural pursuits in the old home province until 1870, when he came with his family to the United States and established his residence on a farm near Momence, Kankakee County, Illinois, where he remained until 1873. He then removed with his family to Jasper County, Indiana, and for three years thereafter he continued his operations





*Mrs. A. Thacker.*



*A. Hicks.*





F. A. Hicks





as an agriculturist and stock-grower on a farm  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles east of Remington. In 1876 he purchased a farm in White County, just across the line from Jasper County, and there he continued to be successfully engaged in diversified agricultural pursuits and the raising of live stock in an incidental way until 1894, when he removed to Remington, where, in an attractive and comfortable home, he lived virtually retired until his death, which occurred on the 13th of January, 1909.

Mr. Hicks was reared in the faith of the Church of England, represented in the United States as the Protestant Episcopal Church, but later in life he became a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. He was a man of well fortified convictions and after becoming a naturalized citizen of the United States he espoused the cause of the republican party, of whose principles he continued to be a loyal supporter until his death. Mr. and Mrs. Hicks became the parents of seven children, all of whom are living, and on other pages is given a brief review of the career of their son Fred A., who is a representative merchant at Remington.

**FRED A. HICKS.** Personal executive ability, fair and honorable dealings and effective service have given to Mr. Hicks secure prestige as one of the leading merchants of the Village of Remington, Jasper County, and his individual popularity in the community is effectively vouchsafed by the fact that at the time of this writing he is giving most loyal, progressive and effective administration in the office of president of the board of trustees or common council of the village. He is a son of the late Andrew Hicks, to whom a memoir is dedicated on other pages of this work, so that further reference to the family history is not demanded at this juncture.

On the homestead farm of his father, in Princeton Township, White County, Indiana, Fred A. Hicks was born on the 8th of May, 1877, and the place of his birth, contiguous to the Jasper County line, is virtually within sight of the village in which he now maintains his home and in which he availed himself of the advantages of the public schools after previously attending the district school near his home. Mr. Hicks continued to be associated with the work and management of his father's farm until he had attained to the age of twenty years, when he assumed a position as clerk in a general merchandise establishment, beginning at the bottom of what is now one of the largest mercantile establishments in Remington, Indiana. Within the four years that he maintained this association Mr. Hicks acquired excellent knowledge of the various details of the mercantile business, and thus he was well fortified when, in 1901, he initiated his independent enterprise as a dealer in dry-goods, shoes, men's furnishing goods and various other lines of merchandise. He has an establishment that is essentially modern in its equipment and appointments and the same controls a sub-



stantial and representative trade, marking the popular appreciation of its facilities and of the sterling characteristics of its owner.

Mr. Hicks is entitled to be designated as one of the most progressive and public-spirited citizens of Remington, and that the local community has full appreciation of this fact is shown by its retaining him in the office of chief executive of the municipal government. He was first elected to this position in 1911, and by successive re-elections has continued his incumbency of the office to the present time, the autumn of 1915. He is affiliated with the local lodge of the Knights of Pythias, and he and his wife are popular figures in connection with the leading social activities of the community, their religious affiliation being with the Presbyterian Church.

On the 5th of June, 1901, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Hicks to Miss Hattie Belle Yeoman, a daughter of Ira Yeoman, and a representative of a family that was founded in Jasper County in the early pioneer days, the Yeomans having, in fact, been numbered among the first settlers in the county, where they established their home when this section of the Hoosier State was little more than a forest wild. Mr. and Mrs. Hicks have two children, Doris Rosamond, in the eighth grade of school, and Donald Ross, a member of the fourth grade.

WILLIAM D. MEYERS. With a residence in Walker Township of Jasper County for forty-three years, William D. Meyers has played the part of an influential and public spirited citizen, and successful himself, he has used his resources for the benefit of the community in many ways. His name is perhaps as well known over Jasper County as that of any other local citizen.

Born January 21, 1852, in Hamilton County, Ohio, he was the second in a family of six children born to William and Mary (Dinkleman) Meyers, both of whom were natives of Germany. The names of the children are: John E., who is still living and married; William D.; Carrie and Louis S., both deceased; Henry C. and George F., who are married and have families of their own. The sons Henry and George finished their education after coming to Jasper County in the old Walker School in Walker Township.

William D. Meyers had limited educational advantages as a boy, largely because of the fact that schools were poorly equipped and scholastic advantages were not considered so requisite a part of equipment in those days as at the present time. At the age of twenty-one he started out to make his own way in the world, and in looking back over a period of more than forty years he can have few regrets in view of the success he has attained. The Meyers family came to Jasper County in 1872, and William D. Meyers has ever since lived in Walker Township. As a young man he worked as a farm hand, but soon engaged in buying cattle, and has been



a stock trader practically all his active career. For a number of years he was associated with his brother in that business.

On February 25, 1890, in Jasper County Mr. Meyers married Lottie Holle. Two children were born to their marriage: William H., still unmarried; and Pearl Ruth, deceased.

When Mr. Meyers came to Jasper County in 1872 the entire country was little more than a wilderness of variegated marsh and brush land, and the favorite areas for cultivation were the sand ridges. He also recalls that at that time only three schools were maintained in Walker Township, known as the Walker, Hershman and Spriggs, the last being kept in a log cabin. Politically Mr. Meyers has always been identified with the republican party, and in 1882 he was elected township trustee, and gave a very efficient administration and from that day to this has always been interested and a worker for the advancement of the public schools in his township and all other needed public improvements. From 1906 to 1910 he served as township assessor.

MATHEW P. CARR. It is not only as a pioneer settler, but as a man of broad usefulness and influence in the community, that the late Mathew P. Carr is recalled to the memory of the younger generation in Jasper County. He stood high among the older settlers, was industrious, quiet in his manner, seldom attracting much attention beyond the borders of his own neighborhood, but wherever known was recognized for his sterling merits and his efficiency in everything he undertook.

It was more than thirty years ago that the career of Mathew P. Carr came to a close with his death on February 10, 1884. He was born in Coshocton County, Ohio, February 9, 1822. His father, Thomas Carr, married a Miss Pittman, and while he was Scotch his wife was Scotch-Irish. About 1830 the Carr family moved to Tippecanoe County, Indiana, when the late Mathew P. Carr was eight years of age. His parents lived there until their death, and in the fall of 1851 Mathew P. Carr, who was then a vigorous young man, and had gained his early training in the log cabin subscription schoolhouses of Tippecanoe County, moved over into Jasper County and settled in Iroquois Township now Newton County. In that locality he made his home, gradually prospering, and helped to change pioneer conditions to those of a well settled and developed neighborhood. It was among people many of whom he had known by close ties of friendship and neighborly kindness that he passed away more than thirty years later, and was laid to rest in the Egypt cemetery in Jordan Township.

Mathew P. Carr married Adeline Graves. Her father was Benjamin Graves, who married a Miss Pierce. Of the nine children born to Mathew Carr and wife the two oldest died unnamed in infancy. The third, Margaret Eliza, is also deceased. The fourth is Nancy Ann; the next is James; Thomas, is now deceased;



Rebecca Jane is Mrs. John A. Knowlton; Carey L.; and Philena, Mrs. John E. Medworth.

Those who remember Mathew Carr would have been surprised to have ever known him as a politician, since it was inconsistent with his quiet unostentatious demeanor to strive for political honors. However, he was a democrat in voting. He was devoted to his family, and made a great success as a farmer and stock dealer. Though reared in the Quaker faith he never joined that sect. His widow survived him many years and passed away in 1905, and they are buried side by side in Jordan Township.

For more than a quarter of a century two of the sons of the late Mathew P. Carr have been successfully identified with farm enterprise in Newton Township under the firm name Carr Brothers. These brothers are James and Carey, the former born April 16, 1852, and the latter March 2, 1860. Since reaching young manhood they have been partnership farmers, where they now own and manage five hundred forty-eight acres of high class land, besides eighty acres of which are located in Jordan Township. They have made many improvements upon the land, and carry on a large business as general farmers and stock raisers.

ABRAM JACKSON FREELAND. Among the men who have helped forward that remarkable economic transformation by which the waste and wooded lands of Jasper County were reclaimed and converted into productive fields and the smiling landscape of happy homes, a place of practical usefulness belongs to Abram Jackson Freeland of Newton Township. Mr. Freeland is one of the few remaining of the early settlers in this county, which he first came to know as a boy, and during his life-time he has witnessed practically all the changes of importance that have revolutionized not only the industry of agriculture but also practically every other department of civilized living.

Born in Crawford County, Ohio, July 24, 1838, he was eight years of age, when, in 1846, he was brought to Jasper County by his parents, Abram and Nancy (Tracey) Freeland. During the '30s and '40s the highways and byways that led from east to west were almost constantly traversed by the wagons bearing emigrants to their new homes, and it was in one of these little caravans that the Freeland family came into Jasper County. They drove two wagons, one drawn by two horses and the other by three, and also brought along with them a small herd of five cows. The season was the late fall, and heavy rains made such roads as were available almost impassable to the wagons. After reaching Jasper County the family spent the following winter at Rensselaer, and then for two years the father lived upon the rented land in section 21 owned by one of the Yeoman family. In the meantime he bought 160 acres in section 17, Newton Township, paying prices ranging from three dollars to four and a half dollars per acre. The property had two





small cabins into which the family moved, but other improvements were hardly deserving of mention. The greater part of the land was covered with heavy woods and confronted by this task Abraham Freeland took up the work of clearing and improving. He and his wife were the parents of seven children, only two of whom are now living. Abraham Freeland was a man of medium size, and was best known in his generation and is best remembered by the old settlers more for his industry and quiet unobtrusiveness than for any other qualities. He belonged to no religious denomination or secret order, was held in high regard as a moral upright man, and good citizen. His wife died in 1859 and he afterward married Elizabeth Wiley.

Abram Jackson Freeland had his bringing up on the old home farm in Newton Township, around which locality most of his early associations center. As an indication of the scope of his individual experience it should be stated that in the early days and when sufficient strength came to his youthful arms, he helped to mow grass with a sickle and reap grain with a cradle. The sowing of the fields was done by hand, broadcast. As a boy he also rode the horse which monotonously tramped back and forth over the floor covered by the grain in the stalk, which was the manner of threshing most generally used in this community fifty or sixty years ago. Though only eight years of age at the time he recalls many incidents of the trip from Ohio to Jasper County, and one fact in particular which indicates the primitive condition of the country at that time is that in all the many miles traversed the wagons never once crossed a railroad track. Thus under his individual observation the great changes for which the nineteenth century was responsible have taken place one after the other, and he has lived to witness the great modern age of electricity and invention. Almost his entire life has been spent in Newton Township, and largely on the farm where he now resides. Mr. Freeland has one of the valuable and well improved country homes in Newton Township, comprising 240 acres of land.

In citizenship he has been honored with those positions of trust and responsibility that furnish large opportunities for service, and has served two terms of two years each as township trustee and one term of four years in that office, and did a valuable work to the community in looking after the property and management of the local schools. In politics he is a democrat, and is affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows at Rensselaer.

On June 9, 1875, Mr. Freeland married Josephine Sayler, daughter of Jacob and Elenore (Hendricks) Sayler. To their marriage have been born five children: Marion, a farmer of Newton Township; Merrill A., who lives with his parents; Eva; Annic, who died at the age of thirteen years; and Ray, who died when two months old.



**JOHN BARNETT.** One of Jasper County's most respected citizens passed out of life at his home at Remington, November 16, 1908, John Barnett, who was well known all through this section for his sterling character, his kind heart and his generous hospitality. Mr. Barnett was a native of Ohio, born February 15, 1838. His parents were James and Phoebe (Huckins) Barnett, natives of Vermont. While John Barnett was young his people moved from Ohio to Illinois and settled eight miles distant from Kankakee. There he attended school and assisted his father on the farm. Early in the Civil war he enlisted in Company G, Twenty-fifth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, later transferring to Company H, and served throughout the entire period of strife. He was an efficient soldier but in later years suffered somewhat from rheumatism brought on through necessary exposure during his army service.

Mr. Barnett was united in marriage with Miss Cynthia Nagley, on November 3, 1874. She is a daughter of Josiah and Nancy (Hawkins) Nagley, well known and highly respected people who lived near Watseka, Illinois. Mr. and Mrs. Barnett had one daughter, Jessie, who died young.

Shortly after their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Barnett moved on a farm of 160 acres situated in Carpenter Township and later an additional 160-acre farm, located near Bluffton, Indiana, was added to their possessions, both of these properties being owned yet by Mrs. Barnett. Together they worked to improve their two farms and Mr. Barnett lived to see them under high cultivation and well repaying the care put on them. Mrs. Barnett devotes the larger part of her land to corn and oats and also keeps considerable high grade stock. She is a member of the Women's Relief Corps.

In 1903 Mr. and Mrs. Barnett left the farm and moved to Remington where they lived in great comfort, Mr. Barnett taking delight in his home. He was genial and social by nature and loved to have his friends around him. He joined no secret society nor was he very active in politics and never was willing to accept any public office. He was a great admirer of Abraham Lincoln and adopted his political faith.

**CHARLES J. DEAN.** One of the most valuable services supplied in any community, new or old, is that represented by the real estate dealer. Both the buyer and seller of realty needs the keen judgment and experience of a man who makes this line of business a profession, and when in addition to long experience there is combined a thorough integrity the real estate dealer at once becomes one of the leaders in a community's business men. This is the position enjoyed at Rensselaer by Charles J. Dean, who has handled real estate and insurance for a number of years, and has spent most of his active career in Jasper County.

It was in 1859 that he came to Jasper County with his parents, who drove across the country in a two-horse wagon from Bloomington, Indiana. Charles J. Dean was born near Smithville, Indiana, April 1, 1855, and all but one of the ten children of his parents are still living. These parents were Eli B. and Amanda L. (Wellington)





John Barnett



ford) Dean, the former a native of Delaware and the latter of Kentucky. Eli B. Dean was a farmer, was born in 1828, and came West as far as Muskingum County, Ohio, at the age of twenty, and after moving his family to Jasper County in 1859 was engaged in farming in Marion Township up to 1882. In that year he moved out to Kansas, and lived in that state until his death in November, 1910. His widow is still living at an advanced age, and has her home in Kansas.

With his boyhood days spent on the home farm in Jasper County, Charles J. Dean in addition to the usual experiences of a farmer boy has recollections growing out of a considerable work as cattle herder on the prairie. Such education as he acquired was from the public schools, which were then few, meager in equipment and deficient in instruction, as compared with those that exist at the present time. His preliminary instruction was supplemented by a course in the Northern Indiana Normal School at Valparaiso.

Mr. Dean married Minnie W. Troxell, daughter of Jacob Troxell. Following his marriage he took up farming as a career, and made that his regular vocation for about seven years, and from it acquired much of the knowledge and experience in estimating land values which have proved exceedingly valuable to him in his present line of undertaking. For four years he lived at Washington, Illinois, and conducted a store in that community. Returning to Jasper County, he was in the hardware business at Rensselaer until selling his stock to the present proprietor, Edward D. Rhoades. Since going out of the mercantile business Mr. Dean has concentrated all his efforts upon the real estate, insurance and loan business.

In politics he is a republican, and is a member of the Knights of Pythias Lodge No. 82. He and his wife have two fine sons: Charles Ross, who is now superintendent of the Rensselaer public schools; and David Delos, who is a graduate of the law department of the State University and is now a young lawyer at Rensselaer.

**OMAR J. KENTON.** One of the progressive and enterprising farmers and stock raisers of Newton Township, Jasper County, traces his ancestry in an unbroken line to Mark Kenton, who was born in Ireland, March 1, 1701, and was the progenitor of the family in America. He settled in Virginia and was the father of William, Benjamin, Mark, Simon (the famous Indian fighter), and John. William Kenton, the eldest, was born September 20, 1737, and married Mary Cleland, and with his family and other pioneers, under the leadership of his brother, the celebrated Simon Kenton, left Fauquier County, Virginia, for Kentucky, in September, 1783. They crossed the Allegheny Mountains in wagons and came down the Ohio River to near the present site of Louisville, without serious molestation from the savages. William Kenton and his family resided for some eleven years in what is now Mercer County, Kentucky, but in December, 1794, located near Washington, in Mercer County. In December, 1801, the entire family





migrated to the wilderness of the community of what was known as Mad River, a tributary of the Great Miami, in the Northwest Territory. William Kenton died in Champaign County, Ohio, May 21, 1822.

William Kenton and his wife were the parents of nine children, the eldest being Philip Conrad Kenton, who was born December 5, 1765, and was the father of William, Thomas, Elizabeth, Mark, John, Edmund, Sarah and Benjamin. John Kenton, of the foregoing, was born in June, 1799, and after the death of his first wife, who was Nancy Anderson, married Polly McDougal. John Kenton, widely known as "Coon" Kenton, came from Ohio to Jasper County, Indiana, in 1843, and died here December 28, 1879. Simon Kenton, one of the children of John, was born in 1836, and was seven years old when brought to Jasper County. He was here reared and made this community his home during the greater part of his life. He served the Union cause during the Civil war and had an honorable record as a soldier. He married Josephine Spry, and Omar J. Kenton, of this review, is the youngest of their children.

Omar J. Kenton was born on the farm on which he now resides, in Newton Township, April 25, 1877, and this has always been his home. He assisted with the work of the home farm in his youth, securing his education in the district school, and while farming has always been his general line of occupation he has also done much for the improvement of high grade stock in Jasper County, his present specialty being the raising of pure-bred Short Horn cattle. He owns 250 acres of superior land, the greater part of which is the old Kenton homestead. Mr. Kenton is an advocate of modern methods in farming, bears an enviable reputation in business circles, and is known as a good and public-spirited citizen of his community.

On April 27, 1904, Mr. Kenton was married to Miss Effie Swaim, and their children, Helen Josephine, Jack and Tom are of the seventh generation of the family who have resided in America.

**HENRY KOLHOFF.** One of the well known and highly respected families of Jasper County, Indiana, bears the name of Kolhoff, and many years ago it was just as well known in the old city of Oldenburg, Germany, where Henry Kolhoff, now a substantial farmer in Marion Township, was born on January 14, 1858. His parents, Herman Henry and Mary Anna (Swinefert) Kolhoff, both died in Germany.

Henry Kolhoff attended school in Germany for a certain time as the German law provides and afterward began to think and plan for a future in America as he wished to be a farmer and saw no chance to follow that vocation in his native province. He was a boy of seventeen years when he reached the United States, reaching Cincinnati, Ohio, in 1875. He found employment there for one year but in 1876 came farther west, locating in the vicinity of Rensselaer, Indiana, where he found employment at first on farms.



At that time Mr. Kolhoff was possessed of but little except good health and good principles, a desire and willingness to work hard and an inheritance of thrift that had been a part of his upbringing in his German home. An interesting contrast is the picture of the sturdy, hard working youth with empty pockets in 1876 and the other picture of the same youth in only middle life who is now the owner of 550 acres of as fine land as can be found in Jasper County. This land lies two miles south of Rensselaer, in section 27, range 7, 64 acres in Marion and 480 in Jordan Township. The entire farm is eligible for tillage as it is all cleared and well tilled. Since first coming to Jasper County, Mr. Kolhoff has lived either in Jordan or Marion Township. For two years prior to 1883 he served as superintendent of the farm connected with the Jasper County Orphan Asylum. Then he embarked in farming in Jordan Township and continued there until 1905 when he moved to his present well improved farm in Marion Township.

In 1883 Henry Kolhoff was united in marriage with Miss Josephine Maenbruck, a daughter of John and Angeline (Stripweyer) Maenbruck, of Marion Township, and they have five children: John, who is a resident of Jordan Township, married Cordelia Sigo; Katherine, who is the wife of Tona Keiper, lives in Marion Township, and has one little daughter, Cuella; Joseph, who is a farmer in Jordan Township, married Rose Sigo; and Angeline and Leona, both of whom live at home.

Mr. Kolhoff and family are members of the St. Augustine Catholic Church at Rensselaer. He belongs to the Catholic Order of Foresters. In politics he is a democrat but has never been a seeker for public office. He has given hearty support to all measures looking to substantial public improvements and well deserves to be numbered with the useful and representative men of his part of Jasper County.

**JOHN KOLHOFF.** A prosperous farmer of Jordan Township, Jasper County, Indiana, who is now serving as township trustee, is John Kolhoff, who was born on his present farm, June 22, 1884, and is a son of Henry and Josephine Kolhoff. He was reared to agricultural pursuits and in his hard-working and successful father had an excellent example to follow. Mr. Kolhoff's farm lies in section 27, range 7, and under his careful management yields large crops. He believes in general improvement not only on his own land but in the county generally and when movements are on foot looking toward systems of drainage and public highway improvements, he is ready to lend his influence in their support. His farm is located  $5\frac{1}{2}$  miles southwest from Rensselaer so that he and wife can enjoy town as well as country life and without trouble attend St. Augustine Catholic Church of which they are members.

On January 12, 1909, Mr. Kolhoff was united in marriage with Miss Cordelia Sigo, who is a daughter of Moses and Philomene



Sigo. Mr. Kolhoff is somewhat prominent in democratic politics and in the fall of 1914 was elected township trustee. He belongs to the Catholic Order of Foresters.

JOSEPH KOLHOFF. The name of Kolhoff in connection with farming and public interests is very familiar in Marion and Jordan townships, Jasper County, Indiana, and a well known bearer of this honorable name is Joseph Kolhoff, who follows an agricultural life on a farm belonging to his father, situated  $5\frac{1}{2}$  miles southwest of Rensselaer. He was born in Jordan Township, October 15, 1887, and has always lived on this place. He is the youngest son of Henry and Josephine Kolhoff, residents of Marion Township. Mr. Kolhoff attended the public schools and since then has devoted his attention closely to his farm industries. He is intelligently interested in public affairs and in the fall of 1914 was chosen by the progressive party as its candidate for sheriff of Jasper County.

On October 2, 1915, Joseph Kolhoff was united in marriage with Miss Rose Sigo, a daughter of Moses and Philomene Sigo, of Jasper County. Mr. and Mrs. Kolhoff are members of St. Augustine Catholic Church at Rensselaer and he is identified with the fraternal order of Modern Woodmen of America at the same place.

WILLIAM K. PARKISON. HARVEY E. PARKISON. WILLIAM H. PARKISON. In the eighty odd years since that splendid pioneer John G. Parkison established his home within the wilds of Jasper County, three successive generations of the family by their work and influence have added to the many distinctions of the name in this section of the state. For the purpose of supplementing what has been said regarding the pioneer founder of the family a brief sketch is given concerning each of the three above named, each of whom represents a successive generation of the family in Jasper County.

On account of the fact that he was already past the age of childhood and able to participate to some extent in the work of a new community, William K. Parkison, a son of John G. Parkison, also deserves a place among the pioneers of Jasper County. He was born in Logan County, Ohio, May 4, 1830, being one of twelve children. He was in his early teens when brought to Jasper County and he grew up among the wilds and swamps of what is now Barkley Township. William K. Parkison married Mary W. Barkley, in honor of whose family the township was named. Nearly all his active career William K. Parkison lived in Barkley Township, and after reaching manhood became prominent in the affairs of his community, serving as trustee of the township and for a number of years as county commissioner. In politics he was first an old line whig, but became identified with the republican party on its organization in 1856, and was a loyal and straightforward advocate of its





A. H. Parsonson.





principles until his death. Though past military age at the time of the Civil war, he rendered effective service, particularly in filling the quota of recruits for his township, thus avoiding the necessity of a draft.

Born to William K. and Mary (Barkley) Parkison were ten children, of whom the following reached maturity: John G., who enlisted in the Fifteenth Indiana Battery during the Civil war and was killed in the Battle of Rocky Face Gap during the Georgia campaign; William Miller, who died when about twenty-one years of age; George B., Harvey Edward and James R., all of whom are active farmers and citizens of Jasper County; Mary J., wife of Granville Moody of Jasper County; and Robert A., who is president of the First National Bank of Rensselaer.

Harvey Edward Parkison, who represents the third generation of the family residence in Jasper County, was born in Barkley Township October 7, 1851. Such education as he acquired came from the district schools and Wabash College, of Crawfordsville, Indiana, but his most substantial training for life was acquired in the discipline of the home place. In fact, his occupation and vocation have been agriculture, and that he was wise in selecting that line of business is indicated by the fact that he has reached a most vigorous old age and has a splendid property to his credit. He owns three farms aggregating 560 acres. In September, 1914, Mr. Parkison retired from the active management of his farm interests, and has since lived in Rensselaer, from which point he looks after his large property affairs.

In politics he is a republican, and while never aspiring to political preferment has filled several of the more important official positions, including that of township trustee. He and his wife are active members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. On October 7, 1875, he married Miss Melvina C. Moore, daughter of W. E. and Diana (Evans) Moore, who came to Jasper County in the early '50s and thereafter was closely associated with the growth and development of his community. The three children of Harvey E. Parkison and wife are: William H., a lawyer of Rensselaer; Wallace M., a practicing physician at Rockford, Washington; and Martha J., wife of Howard Mills of Rensselaer.

William H. Parkison stands in the fourth generation of the Parkison family in Jasper County, has turned from agriculture, which has employed the energies of so many earlier members of the family, and has already achieved success and prominence in the Jasper County bar.

He was born on the old home farm near Pleasant Ridge on July 27, 1876. As a boy he attended the Lefler School and also the Rensselaer High School, and completed his literary training with a course at Purdue University. After making up his mind to study law, he attended the law department of the Indiana State University for a time, though the greater part of his legal education was



acquired in the law offices of Foltz, Spitler & Kurrie. In June, 1899, Mr. Parkison began practice in Rensselaer as a member of the firm of Chilcote & Parkison, and during the past sixteen years he has steadfastly devoted himself to the interests of his practice and has won many enviable successes in the profession.

Mr. Parkison is a republican, affiliates with the Knights of Pythias, the Independent Order of Foresters, Loyal Order of Moose, the Sons of the American Revolution, the Columbia Club and also a member of the Van Rensselaer Club of Rensselaer, Indiana. In the Foresters order he has held the office of high chancellor of Indiana. On September 7, 1899, he married Miss Emma Linn, a daughter of Alfred and Augusta (Burke) Linn. Their two children are named Helen Catherine and William Linn.

**CHARLES F. STACKHOUSE.** Few residents of the country community in Jasper County have more thoroughly deserved the esteem and high standing among fellow citizens than Charles F. Stackhouse, whose home has been in this county since infancy. It has been his good fortune to acquire a comfortable competence as a farmer in Marion Township, and at the same time he has been honored by his fellow citizens with positions of trust and responsibility and during his recent service as a county commissioner his name became familiarly associated with the public life of the county.

This is a family which has been identified with Jasper County for nearly sixty years. It was founded here by the late Clinton D. Stackhouse, father of Charles F. Stackhouse. Clinton D., a son of Clinton and Cynthia Ann (Green) Stackhouse, was born in Pennsylvania in 1828, and when a small boy went to Ohio with his mother, who kept a hotel in that state. From there he came to Indiana, learned the baker's trade in Lafayette, and later was a farmer in the Wabash Valley in Tippecanoe County. From there he came with his mother to Jasper County in 1856, locating on a farm about three and a half miles north of Rensselaer. Their first home was a log cabin, and his labors effected many improvements on the farm and he continued its management for several years. Later going to Rensselaer he engaged in the hardware business with his brother I. M. Stackhouse. To their stock of hardware they subsequently added implements, furniture and undertaking, and thus developed a business which for many years supplied a large and important service to the community. About 1869 Clinton D. Stackhouse, having sold his mercantile business, returned to the farm. In 1891 he left Jasper County, Indiana, and moved to the county of the same name in the State of Missouri, where he conducted a grocery and hardware store at Sarcoux until his death on March 20, 1892. The many people who remember Clinton D. Stackhouse in Jasper County recall two chief characteristics of the man, first, his ability to work hard and persistently in any



undertaking in which he was engaged, and his jovial disposition. These qualities, united with a constant readiness to oblige, gave him a circle of friends which was only limited by the number of persons he knew. He was a member of the Masonic fraternity, was first a republican and later a democrat, and though active in party politics was never an office seeker. Clinton D. Stackhouse was twice married, his wives being sisters. Delilah Obenchain, his first wife, died November 13, 1856, and his second wife, whose maiden name was Mary Jane Obenchain, is still living. He had fourteen children, two by the first marriage and twelve by the second.

One of the two children by his father's first wife, Charles F. Stackhouse was born October 7, 1856, and was only a few weeks old when his mother died, and very soon afterward his father removed to Jasper County. His home has been within the limits of this county practically all his life, and his interests have been concentrated in Marion Township. Farming has been his activity, and to that vocation he has given himself with such energy as to raise himself beyond the reach of want a number of years ago. His education was supplied by the public schools of Marion Township.

On December 28, 1884, Mr. Stackhouse married Elizabeth E. Israel. While they have had no children of their own, they have reared two boys, nephews of Mrs. Stackhouse. Mr. Stackhouse now has 140 acres of some of the most desirable land in Jasper County. He is a member of the Masonic fraternity, and in politics is a democrat. His first important office in the community where he has spent his active career was that of township trustee, to which he was elected in 1904, and during the following four years the schools and other matters under his jurisdiction had a most capable handling. In 1910 he was elected to the office of county commissioner, serving one term of three years.

**JACKSON PHEGLEY.** Of the men whose ability, industry and character have added to the wealth and progress of Jasper County from the earliest times that of Jackson Phegley would deserve mention and special consideration in any history of the locality. Although more than a quarter of a century has passed since his death on October 28, 1888, he is still well remembered by the people of the county. He was one of the men who helped to construct the early fabric of industrial and civic institutions in Jasper County and left an impress on the community which succeeding years will never erase.

A native of Kentucky, Jackson Phegley was born on April 12, 1823, a son of David and Judah Phegley. A few years after his birth his family removed to Southern Indiana and in 1836, when he was thirteen years of age they came to Jasper County, where his father entered land in section 2 in the southeastern part of Marion Township. For some years the family lived in a primitive log



cabin of the type common to pioneer days, and David Phegley with the aid of his sons undertook the tremendous task of reclaiming a tract of land to cultivation. Many of the valuable and fertile acres found in that section of Jasper County were redeemed from the wilderness as a result of the Phegley family's enterprise. In the early days the wild game of the woods, the fish from the limpid waters of lake and stream, kept the family larder well supplied with meat, and every settler of that time was more or less skilled as a hunter. It was in such surroundings that Jackson Phegley grew to manhood. As a boy he had Indians for his playmates, though from a very early age very little time was granted for sports and pleasures, and his career was a strenuous one, with a never ending supply of hard work in clearing the forests and improving the land. Jackson Phegley is remembered for his traits of mind and character as well as for his sturdy industry. He was naturally studious and became unusually well informed for a man of his limited opportunities. He excelled in his part of the country as a mathematician, writer and speller, and always stood high in public esteem.

Jackson Phegley married Lucinda Daugherty. After his marriage he located on section 1 in Marion Township, south of Rensselaer, and his original homestead of forty acres which he had entered from the government is still owned by his descendants. That was his home the rest of his life, where he was quietly engaged in agricultural pursuits. Jackson Phegley was quiet, retiring and unostentatious in disposition, and while never seeking public honors he bore a worthy part in the upbuilding of his community and commanded the respect of all with whom he came in contact. He lived the golden rule and by industry acquired a generous portion of this world's goods. He and his wife became the parents of twelve children, two of whom died in infancy, one at the age of eleven and the remaining nine reached maturity. His wife was born June 25, 1832, and died March 17, 1883.

George O. Hoover, who married one of the daughters of the late Jackson Phegley, also deserves some particular mention in this history of Jasper County, where he lived for a great many years and was known for his substantial worth. His parents were Alford and Margaret (Rozell) Hoover, who were identified with the early settlement of Jasper County, and concerning them more detailed information will be found on other pages.

Born in Warren County, Indiana, July 4, 1850, George O. Hoover was brought when four years of age to Jasper County, and from 1854 grew up on the old Hoover homestead. He received a good practical education, and for a number of years was engaged in teaching school.

He married Lucy Annette Phegley, daughter of Jackson Phegley. After his marriage Mr. Hoover followed farming, acquired 320 acres of land, and also became widely known for his activities as a stock buyer. In 1885 he removed to Rensselaer, and died at his





home in that city April 18, 1889. He and his wife had one daughter, who died in infancy.

ROBERT W. MAY. Surrounded by comforts provided by his life of honest industry, and enjoying benefits and conveniences contributed by improvements and inventions of modern days, Robert W. May, who is the second oldest settler in Carpenter Township, realizes as he looks back that he has lived through a period of great progress. He has witnessed the vast changes that the introduction of steam and electricity have brought about, has seen the automobile to some extent supersede as a transportation medium, horses and oxen and as he reads his daily paper that brings him the telegraphic news from the farthest corners of the earth, he remembers when a weekly or even a monthly journal was the closest connection the farmer had with other than his own restricted section. He appreciates to their full value these many additions to the comfort of life on a farm for in earlier days these advantages were lacking.

Robert W. May was born in Greenbrier County, Virginia, March 23, 1840, and is a son of George and Mary (Yeager) May. Of their family of eight children six survive. When he was nine years old the family moved from Virginia to Jasper County, Indiana, and located on the site of the present home of Mr. May, and here the father died in 1857 and the mother in 1866. His boyhood days were passed usefully in helping to cultivate the farm, along primitive methods, herding cattle on the almost unbroken prairie and, in a very limited way, attending a country school. The farm produced wheat abundantly and he well recalls accompanying his father with a load of wheat to Lafayette, Indiana, which was sold for thirty cents a bushel. Other grains brought but little money as corn sold for ten cents a bushel. At that time the United States had not yet become the granary of the world. As he grew older he worked as a farm hand for \$5 per month, being satisfied with this general wage. When his father died he inherited 40 acres of the homestead and here, by crop raising and stock raising he gained his start in life. To his first forty acres he continued to add until at the present time Mr. May is the owner of 700 acres. Practically his entire life has been passed here and there is no better known nor more highly respected citizen in Jasper County.

On September 7, 1865, Robert W. May was united in marriage with Miss Mary Guy, and they have had six children born to them: Charles V., Samuel H., Dorothy, who is the wife of Burdett Porter, Thomas, Benjamin, and Etta, who died in childhood.

Interested all his life in substantial progress, Mr. May has been usefully influential in his neighborhood but he has never been willing to accept public office, always, however, giving support to the republican party's candidates.



CHARLES V. MAY. The industry and good judgment that are absolutely necessary to make a man a competent farmer, would, without doubt have contributed to his success in any other selected calling and very often prepare for efficiency in public office. Farming is no more easily mastered than many professions and, in fact, a farmer, to realize the highest mark, must understand to some extent, very many things aside from sowing seed and gathering his harvest. In selecting or preparing soil to suit certain seeds, he exercises a knowledge of chemistry, and in his various subsequent operations he must be mindful of temperature and climatic changes and thereby enters the field of meteorology. If he has no entomological information, his crops will suffer from the ravages of insects. Thus it is that the farmer justly occupies a very prominent place in public estimation, not only because the world needs what he produces but also because he has the trained ability to fill this need. Among the well qualified farmers of Jasper County, Indiana, mention may be made to a representative member of one of the old families of Carpenter Township, Charles V. May.

Charles V. May was born June 8, 1867, in Carpenter Township, Jasper County, Indiana, and is a son of Robert W. and Mary (Guy) May, the former of whom was born in Virginia and is now the second oldest settler of Carpenter Township.

Reared on the home farm and from boyhood assisting according to his strength and experience, Mr. May has devoted a large portion of his life to things purely agricultural. He was educated in the district school, attending mainly during the winter terms and made the most of his opportunities and today is one of the intelligent, well informed men of his community. Since the age of twenty-one years he has been in business for himself and now owns 297 acres of valuable land. During earlier years he gave personal attention to all the details of his farm but latterly has had to delegate many duties to his son owing to his responsibilities as vice president of the Remington Bank, and because of his election in 1914 to the important office of treasurer of Jasper County.

In 1889 Charles V. May was united in marriage with Miss Noral Ireland, who died in 1897, the mother of two children, Opal and Harry. In 1901 Mr. May was married to Miss Sallie Shaull, who is a daughter of George and Mollie Shaull. Three children have been born to the second marriage: Lois, Mary and Robert.

Mr. May has always been dependable in his adherence to the republican party and on numerous occasions has been honored by that organization by election to public offices of trust and responsibility. In 1908 he was elected trustee of Carpenter Township and served as such for six consecutive years. After being elected to the office of county treasurer, Mr. May made arrangements to leave his farm, in 1915, when assuming the duties of his office, locating with comfortable surroundings, at Remington. Mr. May has always managed his private affairs carefully and





JOHN HIGGINS

"The Drummer Boy of the Fifty-first Indiana Regiment of  
Infantry in 1861."



judiciously and in his hands the public finances of the county are safe. Fraternally he is a Royal Arch Mason at Goodland and a member of the Eastern Star at Remington and also an Encampment degree Odd Fellow at Remington, Indiana.

**JOHN HIGGINS.** One of the oldest and most honored citizens of Kentland is John Higgins. He is probably one of the youngest survivors who saw actual service in the great War of the Rebellion. He was hardly in his teens when he became a drummer boy. For fully half a century he has been a hard working industrious mechanic and business man, and is still prosecuting his work vigorously at the head of an insurance, law and abstract office.

As a boy and young man he came into close touch with the hard circumstances of life. He was born in Brooklyn, New York, April 24, 1849, a son of Michael and Julia Higgins, of Irish descent. At the age of seven he was left an orphan, and for three years lived in the institution of the Children's Aid Society at New York City. In December, 1859, he came west with a carload of other children, and was adopted by Samuel Bramble of Tippecanoe County. With that man, for whose memory he has always had a high esteem, he made his home almost continuously until 1865. In the meantime he gained some education and served an apprenticeship at the tinner's trade under George W. Smith.

On October 10, 1861, Mr. Higgins enlisted as a drummer boy in Company B of the Fifty-first Indiana Regiment of Infantry. A child among men, he served with faithfulness and with the courage of a man until March 22, 1863. Just about half a century ago he moved to Kentland and took up the work of his trade as tinner, which he followed actively until 1888. Mr. Higgins is one of the few men whose recollections cover almost the entire period of Kentland's history. When he first came here there was one business block, a hotel and five or six stores, with a very few residences on the townsite proper. His own business affairs have prospered and he has lent a helping hand to all movements for improvement and has served many individuals with kindness and a spirit of brotherly helpfulness.

In 1888 Mr. Higgins was elected county recorder, and filled that office four years, at the end of which time he was re-elected for another like term, this time without opposition. He then went into partnership with Frank A. Comparet, in the law, insurance and abstract business. Their association was continued from January, 1897, until Mr. Comparet's death in 1905. Since then for the past ten years Mr. Higgins has continued alone in business. This is his chief occupation and interest, and he has made his office an important service in the county.

In politics he is a republican, and besides his work as county recorder he served as member of the town board three different times. In 1907, he was appointed county attorney for Newton





County, Indiana, serving in that capacity for seven years. He is affiliated with the Lodge and Chapter of Masonry in Kentland and with the Council at Monticello. His family are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

On September 4, 1878, Mr. Higgins married Annie Wittenberg, who was born and reared in White County, Indiana, a daughter of Charles and Caroline Wittenberg. Mrs. Wittenberg is yet living in White County, but the father is deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Higgins are the parents of three children: Frederick B., Harry L. and Ruth B. Frederick, who died April 20, 1916, was a resident of Los Angeles, California, where he was engaged in the railroad business. He was a graduate of the Kentland High School. Harry L., also educated in the Kentland High School, is private secretary to the general manager of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company at Pittsburg. The daughter Ruth is a high school graduate, and also pursued a literary and musical course at De Pauw University.

**JASPER GUY.** Prominent among the contingent of able and successful lawyers who are well upholding the prestige of the bar of Jasper County stands this well known citizen of Remington, who has held for more than twenty-five consecutive years the office of village attorney of this place, who controls a substantial and representative law business and who is local attorney for the Pennsylvania Railroad Company. Further interest attaches to his career by reason of the fact that he is a native son of Jasper County and a scion of a family that was founded in Jasper County nearly seventy years ago.

On the homestead farm of his parents, in Barkley Township, this county, Mr. Guy was born on the 15th of August, 1850, and he is one of the two surviving members of a family of eight children born to Samuel and Adaline (Cave) Guy. The father was born in Delaware County, Ohio, in 1815, a member of one of the sterling pioneer families of the old Buckeye State, and the latter of whom was born in Kentucky, in 1825, their marriage having been solemnized in Tippecanoe County, Indiana, where they remained until about the year 1848, when they came to Jasper County and became pioneer settlers in Barkley Township, where Samuel Guy devoted his attention to the reclamation and cultivation of his pioneer farmstead for the ensuing eight years. He then removed with his family to Medaryville, Pulaski County, in which locality he continued his activities as an agriculturist and stock-grower until about the year 1869, when the family returned to Jasper County and established a home in the village of Remington. Here the devoted wife and mother died in 1870, and Samuel Guy, who later contracted a second marriage, passed to the life eternal in 1885, shortly after having attained to the psalmist's span of three score years and ten.

Jasper Guy acquired his early education in the schools of Jas-



per and Pulaski counties and remained at the parental home until the removal of the family to Remington, when, as a youth of about nineteen years, he went to the State of Iowa, where he completed his higher education by a thorough course in Cornell College, at Mount Vernon, an institution in which he was graduated as a member of the class of 1873 and from which he received the degree of Bachelor of Arts. He then returned to Indiana, where he became a successful and popular representative of the pedagogic professions, his effective services as a teacher having continued until 1877 and during one term it having been his privilege to be a member of the corps of teachers in the public schools of Remington. Both in youth and in later years has Mr. Guy been ambitious and untiring in the accumulation of knowledge, and he looks upon the entire period of human existence as one of progressive education. Thus, while still engaged in teaching, he devoted himself assiduously to the study of medicine, but he finally gave up the idea of preparing himself for the medical profession and during vacation periods while teaching school he acquired an excellent knowledge of pharmacy by serving as clerk in drug stores.

In 1877, well fortified in technical knowledge, Mr. Guy engaged in the drug business at Remington, and with this line of enterprise he continued to be identified about twelve years. In the meanwhile his ambition and versatile talents were shown by the substantial progress he had made in the absorption and assimilation of the involved science of jurisprudence, he having come to the determination to prepare himself adequately for the practice of law. He was admitted to the bar of his native state in 1888, and since that time has been engaged in the active general practice of his profession at Remington, where he now has precedence as the virtual dean of the local bar and where his close application, and his recognized ability as a resourceful trial lawyer and well fortified counselor, have gained to him unequivocal success, as well as high standing at the bar of this section of the state. As previously stated, he is local attorney for the Pennsylvania Railroad Company and has been for more than a quarter of a century retained consecutively in the office of village attorney. In connection with his law practice he has developed a substantial insurance and loan business. Mr. Guy has been a leader in local sentiment and action and has wielded much influence in the furtherance of enterprises and measures that have inured greatly to the benefit of his attractive little home city and that of the community in general. His political allegiance is given to the republican party and he is an effective exponent of its principles and policies, though he has never been imbued with ambition for political office. Both he and his wife are zealous members of the Christian Church of Remington.

In 1874 Mr. Guy wedded Miss Emma Hartman, and the cherished and devoted wife of his youth continued his companion and helpmate for twenty years, when the marital ties were severed



by her death, in 1894. Concerning the children of this union brief record is here given: Grace became, in 1897, the wife of Eugene Dingman, and she was summoned to the life eternal in 1906, being survived by her husband and one son, Frank; Pearl is the wife of John W. Reed, one of the managers of a leading mercantile establishment in the city of Indianapolis; Homer holds the position of superintendent of the signal service department of the Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe Railroad Company, with headquarters in Kansas City, Missouri; Leroy died in 1906, at the age of twenty-two years; Myrtle is the wife of Augustus Leonhardt, of Los Angeles, California, and they have one son, Summer; Bessie, the wife of Robert Gardner, of Bennettsville, Indiana; and Dale is employed as a lineman in the service of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company.

In 1909 Mr. Guy contracted a second marriage, when Helene A. Roades became his wife, and they have one daughter, Geraldine. Mr. Guy has also been a member of the Indiana Bar, since October, 1912.

JAMES A. WASHBURN. In 1915 was recorded eighteen years of Mr. Washburn's continuous residence in the attractive and vigorous village of Remington, Jasper County, and during this entire period he has here been a prominent factor in the grain business, with which he is still actively identified. He is one of the liberal and progressive business men of Remington and his civic loyalty is shown in his constant and helpful interest in all that touches the welfare of the community.

From the time of his nativity, has Mr. Washburn been a resident of northwestern Indiana, and he was born at Kentland, the judicial center of Newton County, on the 6th of August, 1870, a scion of an old and honored Indiana family. He is a son of Perry and Elizabeth (Clayton) Washburn, who established their home at Kentland in 1869, the father later becoming a prosperous and representative farmer in Benton County, where his death occurred. His widow now resides at Kentland, and of the nine children seven still survive the honored father.

James A. Washburn found the period of his boyhood and early youth compassed by the influence of the home farm, in Benton County, and parental admonition as well as personal appreciation caused him to make good use of the advantages afforded to him in the district schools. After leaving the farm he acquired his novitiate in practical business by entering the employ of Warren T. McCray, who was engaged in the buying and shipping of grain at Kentland. A year later, in 1897, Mr. Washburn, as a partner in the grain business of the firm of McCray, Morrison & Company, became its representative at Remington, and in 1899 the substantial business here conducted by the firm made but consistent the changing of the commercial title of the concern to the Remington



Grain Company. In October, 1910, the business was sold to the Remington Farmers' Elevator Company, and at this juncture in his career Mr. Washburn became associated in an active way with the Frank Kelley Grain Company, with which representative Remington corporation he has since maintained his alliance. He is an acknowledged authority in all that pertains to the grain business and is one of its prominent representatives in this part of his native state.

In politics Mr. Washburn accords unqualified allegiance to the democratic party and he is an influential factor in its local activities, besides which he has held various public offices of minor order, and in 1914 was his party's unsuccessful candidate for the office of county commissioner. He is affiliated with the Remington lodge and chapter of York Rite of the time-honored Masonic fraternity and also holds membership in the local lodge of the Knights of Pythias. Both he and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

October 21, 1896, was the date on which was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Washburn to Miss Lydia Shonkwiler, of Raub, Benton County, and their pleasant home in Remington is a center of generous hospitality. They have five children: Nina, Will, Lowell, Lucille and Grace.

**JOHN FENWICK.** Among the prominent residents of Carpenter Township is John Fenwick, general farmer and stock raiser, but now living retired, whose home has been in Jasper County for more than forty years. He has been a witness to much of the growth and development that have occurred in this time, and as the years have passed he has so directed his labors that success has resulted and he is enabled to enjoy a competence won by hard work and a strict integrity.

A native of England, he was born in North Lincolnshire May 25, 1847, a son of Edward and Mary J. Fenwick. He grew up in his native English country, gained a limited equipment of scholastic knowledge there, and from an early age has been closely acquainted with hard work as a means of pushing oneself forward in the world. In 1870 he emigrated to America, and for a couple of years worked in different forms of labor near Joliet, Illinois.

In 1873 he came to Jasper County, locating in Jordan Township, and has been identified with this section of Indiana ever since. On August 9, 1877, Mr. Fenwick married Mrs. Mary A. Harris Sage, widow of the late George Sage, and eight children were born of that union, of whom three are living: Mary E., the wife of John Eck, a farmer of Carpenter Township, and they have three children, Mary, Nellie and William; Warren W. Sage, a farmer who is married and resides near Rensselaer; and John W. Sage, a resident of Goodland and an agriculturist. He has been twice married, first to Della Farmer, and they had one daughter, Ora, who is a teacher, and his second marriage was with Irma Heath, and they have a son, John R. Mrs. Fenwick was born in Baltimore County,





Maryland, April 25, 1838, a daughter of Thomas and Mary (Alban) Harris, and one of their five living children, namely: Ellen, the widow of Isaac Westfall and a resident of Kansas City, Missouri; Mrs. Fenwick; John, who is a resident of Remington, a farmer, a democrat and a member of the Christian Church; Ann Eliza, wife of Van Buren Hines, a retired farmer living in Arkansas; and Violet E., widow of Joseph Glosser, of Remington. Both Mr. and Mrs. Harris were natives of Maryland, and they came to Indiana when their daughter Mrs. Fenwick, was sixteen years of age. Mr. Harris, who was a tiller of the soil, accumulated a farm of 160 acres in Carpenter Township. He affiliated with the democratic party and was a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Both he and his wife were laid to rest in the Egypt cemetery in Carpenter Township.

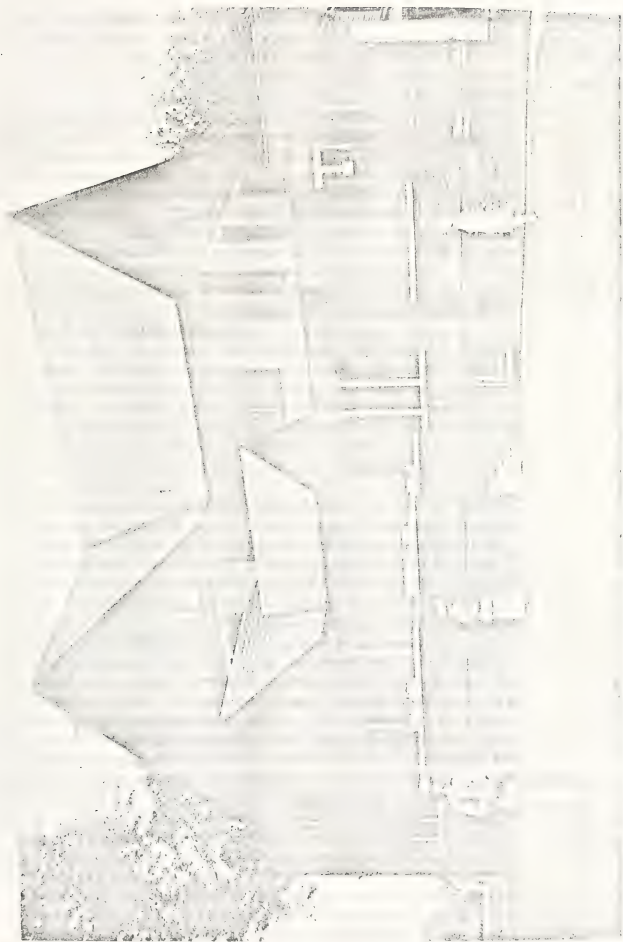
Mr. and Mrs. Fenwick have had two children. The daughter Lucy is now deceased. Joseph Franklin, the only survivor, is a resident of Jordan Township, and by his marriage to Anna Wortley, has five children named Edith, Opal, Fern, Oral and an infant still unnamed. Joseph F. Fenwick is a member of the Church of the Living God and is affiliated with the democratic party.

In politics Mr. Fenwick has identified himself with the democratic party since gaining American citizenship, though the seeking of office has been furthest from his desires or aspirations. He has played the part of a worthy citizen without striving for the honors that go with public office, and has always favored local improvements. He and his wife are both members of the Church of the Living God. At the present time Mr. and Mrs. Fenwick live retired in the village of Remington, where they have had a comfortable home since the fall of 1905. Mr. Fenwick owns eighty acres of first class farming land and also owns his home and other property in the town.

**HUME L. SAMMONS.** Any community can be grateful for the possession of such citizens as Hume L. Sammons. He is a lawyer by profession, and in fifteen years has established a reputation for sound ability and patient and careful handling of every trust. He has proved a real leader in public affairs. It is not his disposition to rest content with present achievement, especially when the standard of public improvements is lower than it ought to be. Hence he has done much to bring Kentland forward as a progressive municipality, and at the present time is serving as Kentland's postmaster.

A native of this section of Indiana, he was born near Morocco in Newton County April 2, 1871, a son of Nicholas D. and Margaret (Woolnough) Sammons. His parents were of English ancestry and were born in Canada, near Niagara Falls, Ontario. They were reared, educated and married there, and became the parents of four children. James B., now deceased, who was drowned in 1880







in Puget Sound, while a member of the United States Regular Army; Emma V., who is the wife of Judge Darroch of Kentland; George M., a merchant at Milford, Illinois; and Hume L.

It was about 1860 that the Sammons family moved to Newton County and located in Beaver Township. The father followed farming and stock raising and general trading and during the period of the Civil war was employed as a bookkeeper for the Sandwich Manufacturing Company. Later he taught school for two years in Newton County. He was also for a time engaged in work for Mr. Young. About 1876 he entered the drug business at Donovan, Illinois, and from there removed to Milford, Illinois, and conducted a hotel until he retired about 1896. His death occurred in Milford, Illinois, March 26, 1906, while his wife passed away April 8, 1908. Both are buried at Milford. Nicholas D. Sammons was one of the organizers and a charter member of the Masonic Lodge at Morocco, and his wife was a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Hume L. Sammons acquired his early education at Milford, Illinois. He has had a great variety of experience and has acquired a large knowledge of men and affairs. As a boy he apprenticed himself to learn the printer's trade, beginning at sixteen and at the age of nineteen was enjoying the responsibilities as editor and foreman of the principal paper at Milford. At the age of twenty-two he was one of the proprietors and was managing editor of a daily paper at Kankakee.

It was in 1896 that Mr. Sammons removed to Kentland and took up the study of law with the firm of Cummings & Darroch. After admission to the bar he started independent practice in 1901, and has now been an active member of the bar for fifteen years. For a democrat in a normally republican community Mr. Sammons has accomplished the seeming impossible on several occasions as head of the democratic organization and has exercised a potent influence in public affairs. In 1913 he was appointed to the office of postmaster. Some years earlier as a member of the local town board he undertook to remedy certain conditions and succeeded admirably. Poor city pavements were replaced with good ones, bad wooden sidewalks with cement, and in many ways the general appearance and convenience of the little community were thoroughly changed for the better. Some ill feeling was aroused by such progressiveness, but in the end his work was thoroughly appreciated and some years later he was unanimously elected as a non-partisan candidate for the town board. Again he proved a valuable factor in a later stage of town improvements, and brought about the construction of the splendid new waterworks, established boulevard lights and sanitary drinking fountains in the business district of Kentland. Mr. Sammons in conjunction with C. C. Kent organized Kent State Bank in 1910, and has been a director of that institution since its organization. He is now president of the school



board, vice president of the library board and was a member of the building committee which constructed the local library building.

On July 4, 1897, he married Miss Elizabeth Fenwick, of Kankakee, Illinois. They are the parents of two children: George F., born August 11, 1898, who was graduated from the Kentland High School with the class of 1916; and Florence M., born August 22, 1902, a member of the freshman class of the Kentland High School.

**S. G. HAND.** President of the State Bank of Remington, where he has had his home for a little over ten years, Mr. Hand is a veteran railroad man, and spent the greater part of his active years as a telegraph operator and station agent in Indiana. Since coming to Remington he has been closely identified with its business and civic life.

Born at New Albany, Indiana, August 26, 1852, he is a son of L. F. Hand, who was a civil engineer by profession and served for many terms as surveyor of Floyd County, Indiana. In New Albany S. G. Hand spent the first seventeen years of his life, and in that time gained a common school education. In 1869 he went to San Pierre, and a few months later went to Grundy County, Illinois, and found work as a farm hand during the summers while he attended school in the winter. With his small savings he then took a course in telegraphy, and following that for twenty-nine years was employed as an operator and station agent at different places in Indiana, and continuously in the service of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company. He was at Kentland for nineteen years, and while there became interested in the grain business at Remington, which brought him to that Jasper County town in 1904. He also spent two years at Toledo, Ohio, but was really there only for the purpose of giving his daughter a home while she was gaining her musical education.

Mr. Hand was one of the organizers of the State Bank of Remington, and has since been identified with its growth and prosperity. He is a republican in politics, and he and his family are members of the Presbyterian Church. In 1876 he married Miss Rachel Taylor. They have two daughters: Grace A. is the wife of Alviere Milligan, who was formerly in the banking business in Florida; and Edith B., who is the wife of H. Pierre Branning, now presiding judge of the Eleventh Judicial District of Florida. Mr. Hand is now serving his second term as a member of the town board of Remington, while Mrs. Hand is a member of the Remington Library Board.

**WALTER E. JOHNSTON.** A great proportion of the trade in lumber, coal and general building material handled at Remington is through the firm of C. B. Johnston & Son. They have a large sum invested in a complete stock of lumber, coal, glass, sewer pipe,





salt, lime, cement, brick and everything known in the building line including nails and fencing materials.

The constituent members of the firm are Charles B. Johnston and his son Walter E. Johnston. On November 16, 1908, they came to Remington and bought out the Jasper County Lumber Company, and have since continued and expanded this successful concern. The Johnston family lived at Arrowsmith, Illinois, prior to their removal to Remington, and were in the lumber and grain business in that Illinois town for a number of years.

Charles B. Johnston was born at Branch Hill near Cincinnati, Ohio, June 16, 1848, and his son was born in the same locality December 7, 1874. Charles B. Johnston married Ida Eveland, who was also a native of Ohio. Their five children are: Walter E.; Anna G., wife of John D. Snyder, living at Hutchinson, Kansas; Margaret, at home; Dr. C. Roy, of Decatur, Illinois; and Ida Bertha, who is the wife of Dr. J. A. Meiner and lives at Kokomo.

Charles B. Johnston was formerly a democrat in politics, but is now a prohibitionist, and his son has followed in the same direction. Walter E. Johnston is affiliated with Arrowsmith Lodge No. 737, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, but his father is a member of no secret order. The latter is a Methodist, while Walter is a member of the Christian Church and has been superintendent of the Sunday School ever since moving to Remington. Walter E. Johnston received his high school education in Washburn, Illinois, and afterward studied both law and commercial courses at Bloomington, Illinois.

Walter E. Johnston married Miss Ora Cline, daughter of S. E. and Mary Cline of Arrowsmith, Illinois. Their two children, both at home in Remington, are Francis E. and Janet J. Mrs. Johnston is a member of the Remington Library Board.

ELIEZER W. SAGE. Well may this sterling and honored citizen of Jasper County consider himself fortunate in being the owner of one of the fine farms of Newton Township, where he holds prestige as one of the representative agriculturists and stock-growers of the county and where he has maintained his home since 1890. His well improved homestead comprises 180 acres of most productive land, and in addition to this place he is the owner of a valuable farm of 160 acres in Paulding County, Ohio, and a fine landed estate of 632 acres in the State of Minnesota,—conditions that significantly vouch for the success that has attended his efforts as a progressive agriculturist and stock-raiser.

A scion of a pioneer family of Illinois, Mr. Sage was born in Will County, that state, on the 28th of April, 1849. He is one of a family of fourteen children, of whom seven are now living. He bears the full patronymic of his honored father, Eliezer W. Sage, Sr., and the maiden name of his mother was Mary Willard, both parents having been born in the State of New York. His father,



whose entire active career was devoted to the basic industry of agriculture, was a brother of the late Russell Sage, the noted New York capitalist and financier. Eliezer W. Sage, Sr., removed from the old Empire State to Will County, Illinois, in 1832, and he settled in the veritable wilderness, where Indians were more in evidence than white men. In that county he reclaimed and improved an excellent pioneer farm and became a prominent and influential citizen of his community, both he and his wife passing the residue of their lives in Will County and each attaining to venerable age.

Eliezer W. Sage, Jr., the immediate subject of this review, was reared to sturdy discipline of the home farm and his early educational advantages were those afforded in the public schools of his native county, including a high-school course. When the Civil war was precipitated upon the nation his youthful patriotism and loyalty were roused to responsive protest, and on the 23d of December, 1863, about four months prior to his fifteenth birthday anniversary, he tendered his services in defense to the Union, by enlisting in Company D, Seventy-second Illinois Volunteer Infantry. Prior to this he had enlisted in Company E, One Hundredth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, but through the influence of his father he was transferred to the regiment first mentioned. Mr. Sage gained his initial experience in practical conflict of war by his participation in the siege of Vicksburg, and for several months after the capture of that city he was there retained in provost service. With his command he joined Sherman's army in time to take part in the siege and battle of Atlanta, and later his regiment was sent back to Nashville, Tennessee, to aid in checking the advance of the Confederate forces under General Hood. In this connection he participated in the engagements at Columbia, Spring Hill, Franklin and Nashville, after which he went South with his command and took part in the engagement of Spanish Fort, at Mobile, Alabama. The regiment then proceeded to Montgomery, that state, and on to Meridian, Mississippi, where it was disbanded. As Mr. Sage's term of enlistment had not expired he was transferred to and became a member of Company I, Thirty-third Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and thereafter he was stationed with this command at Vicksburg until he received his honorable discharge, on the 7th of December, 1865. Owing to his extreme youth the military service of Mr. Sage was as a member of the regimental band, and he had the distinction of being one of the youngest drummer boys in the Union ranks, the while he stands today as probably the youngest veteran of the Civil War to be found in Jasper County. In the battle of Franklin he received a gunshot wound through the left wrist, but fortunately no bones were broken and he was soon found giving his active attention once more to his duties as a drummer boy. His record was one that shall ever reflect credit and honor upon his name and he vitalizes his interest in his old comrades through his active and appreciative affiliation with the Grand Army of the Republic. In politics Mr.





1. ALEXANDER L. GEIZELMAN (Deceased).  
2. MRS. ALEXANDER L. GEIZELMAN.

3. WILLIAM J. AYRES.  
4. MRS. WILLIAM J. AYRES.



Sage has never strayed from the path marking strict allegiance to the cause of the republican party, though he has not been imbued with any desire for public office or the turbulence of practical politics.

After the close of the war Mr. Sage, a youthful veteran who had won well merited honors, returned to Will County, Illinois, where he resumed his active association with agricultural pursuits. There, in 1869, was solemnized his marriage to Miss Alletta Buell, and she passed to the life eternal in 1872, after having become the mother of six children, George (deceased), Alta, Roy, Clarence, Cora and Helen.

In 1873 Mr. Sage wedded Miss Sarah Butts, who has continued his devoted companion and helpmeet during the long intervening period of more than forty years. Of their five children Ethel and Eliezer are deceased, and those surviving are Esther, Russell and Kermit.

In 1890 Mr. Sage established his residence in Jasper County, where he has since continued his active and successful endeavors as one of the resourceful and representative farmers of the county.

ALEXANDER L. GEIZELMAN. The late Alexander L. Geizelman was born in the vicinity of Hanover, Pennsylvania, January 25, 1850, and he died February 3, 1911, in Pensacola, Florida, where he had gone in search of health. A resident of Kentland for twenty-five years, he was a prosperous and successful farmer of the community, and he left to his family, aside from the heritage of a good name, a nice farming property in the county that had so long been his home.

Mr. Geizelman was the son of Jesse and Elizabeth (Kohler) Geizelman, both natives of Pennsylvania, of German ancestry, and they later became residents of Woodsborro, Frederick County, Maryland, where they spent their last days. They were the parents of three sons. Alexander Geizelman was reared and educated mainly in Maryland. He had a common school training and he was still a young boy when he began to work for his brother on his farm. When he was twenty-two years old he came West, settling in Newton County, Indiana, and there engaging in farming and stockraising on his own responsibility. Indeed, that was his life work, and from then on he devoted himself almost exclusively to that enterprise. He married on September 30, 1873, and with his young wife settled on one of the farms of his wife's father, who was a large property owner in Newton County at that time. After about three years later they took up their residence with Mr. Sell, his wife's father, and they continued to make their home there as long as Mr. Sell lived. His wife, who was Emma R. Sell, the daughter of John A. and Elizabeth (Wise) Sell, bore him five children. Four of them died in infancy, and their one living child is Jennie, who was married to William J. Ayres at Kentland on December 26, 1899.





Mr. Ayres was born in Pennsylvania, attended the schools of Philadelphia and graduated in law and finance at the University of Pennsylvania. He was admitted to the bar of his native state, and at the present time is an honored member of the Newton County bar. He has also spent years as a practical miner, being versed in mineralogy and geology, and his field of operation has been both the East and the West. He is a republican in his political affiliations and is a member of the Newton County Bar Association.

Mr. Geizelman was a successful farmer, and aside from the operation of his own fine place of 260 acres, he successfully and ably managed the farm properties belonging to Mr. Sell, concerning whom it is fitting that further mention be made at this point.

John A. Sell came to Newton County from Ohio in 1868. His birthplace was in Adams County, Pennsylvania, and the date of his birth, May 15, 1812. He died here on January 14, 1886. His first wife was Lydia Sell, who died, leaving five children. On August 13, 1848, Mr. Sell married Elizabeth Wise, and four daughters were born to them. Up to the year 1836 Mr. Sell made his home in Pennsylvania, his native state, but in that year he located in Canton, Stark County, Ohio, coming thence to Newton County, Indiana, in 1868, as has been stated above. He was a staunch republican all his later days, and a member of the German Reformed Church. He spent his life in successful farming in Newton County and is now buried by the side of his wife in River Cemetery. He was the owner of about 700 acres of fine farming lands when he died, as well as certain other properties in the county.

Mr. Geizelman was a republican in politics, but never sought office. He was a member of the German Lutheran Church and of the Knights of Pythias of Kentland, Indiana.

DANIEL SWANEY MAKEEVER. Success consists in a steady betterment of one's material condition and an increase of one's ability to render service to others. Measured by this standard, one of the exceptionally successful men of Jasper County is Daniel Swaney Makeever, known not only through his extensive land holdings and farming interests, but also through his business and official relations with the county. He is now one of the county commissioners. All his life has been spent in Jasper County, and his career has been one of steady rise to independence and prosperity.

Born on the farm where he now resides in Newton Township January 6, 1869, he bears the same name as his father, and was one of three children. His older brother, David C. Makeever, died in middle life, and his family has since removed from Jasper County. The only sister, Mary Elizabeth, married Felix W. Lester, and now lives in the State of Nebraska.

Daniel Swaney Makeever grew up on the old homestead in Newton Township, gained his first training in the local schools and then entered the Rensselaer High School. Two months before



his graduation his father died, and that event caused him to assume at once the various responsibilities of life. During the summer of 1887 he took a business course at the Eastman's Business College in Poughkeepsie, New York, but his career of substantial industry has always been identified with farming.

On September 27, 1892, he married Miss Emeline Randle, daughter of James T. Randle. They are the parents of one daughter, Ruth C.

An active republican of Jasper County, Mr. Makeever in 1912 was elected a member of the Board of County Commissioners, and is still giving much of his time and attention to the duties of that office. As a farmer he own 560 acres in his home place, and altogether has about sixteen hundred acres in Jasper County. He has shown a great deal of business judgment and enterprise in all his dealings, and his business record is given further testimonial through his relations as a director with the First National and the Trust Banks at Rensselaer, and he is a stockholder in banks at Mount Ayr and Wheatfield. Mr. and Mrs. Makeever are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

CHRISTIAN HENSLER. In looking back over the half century that has elapsed since he first settled in Jasper County, Indiana, Christian Hensler can recall much that belongs to the progressive history of the state. He has seen the settlement of hardy pioneers, the clearing and developing of land, the building of comfortable farm houses, the founding of churches and schools that assured education for the children, and the introduction of marvelous agricultural machinery that has lessened the farmer's toil while adding to the volume of his products. Mr. Hensler can recall much more that is interesting for he is the oldest surviving settler of Carpenter Township.

Christian Hensler was born in Tuscarawas County, Ohio, March 12, 1835, and is one of the two surviving children in a family of eight born to his parents, Christian and Mary M. Rosina Hensler. They were natives of Wittenberg, Germany, where they grew to mature years and married and remained in Germany until after the birth of four of their children. The father learned the fuller's trade and after coming to the United States he found work for a time in that line in Ohio. About 1844, about the time that James K. Polk was elected president of the United States, he removed with his family to Indiana and located in Owen County. After the death of his wife there, Christian Hensler, Sr., moved to Wabash County but later came to Jasper County and made his home with his son Christian until his death.

In his boyhood Christian Hensler had few of the advantages that now are given to youth as a birthright. He was only fourteen years of age when he left home to make his own way in the world, without a dollar of capital and that he succeeded so well is proof



that there was stability in his character and that he was not only industrious but honest and self respecting. For several years he worked in different places, usually on farms, and in 1856 found himself in Hardin County, Iowa. There he labored as a farmer until 1859, when he returned to Indiana and began operating farm land in Benton County, situated six miles south and one mile east of Remington and continued there until 1865, when he moved to Remington and in the following year became a general farmer in Carpenter Township, in which section he has lived ever since. Remembering that he started out alone without any capital it is a remarkable fact that through his perseverance and industry alone he should have been able to accumulate so large a body of valuable land as 1,600 acres, 600 of which he yet retains, having generously given 1,000 acres to his children. The possession of this land represented much self denial and many years of hard work.

In 1858 Christian Hensler was united in marriage with Miss Mary M. Wiggins, and they have had the following children: Katherine, who is now deceased; George, who is a farmer; Charles, who is a resident of Remington and a farmer in Jordan Township; Jacob A., who is a merchant at Remington; Clarissa, who is the wife of Carey Mitchell, a resident of Carpenter Township; Rosa, who is the wife of Emil Alberding, a resident of Carpenter Township; and two who died in infancy.

Mr. Hensler is a republican in politics but aside from local positions he has continuously declined political office. He has always been foremost in working for the benefit of farmers, advocating the value of good roads and the following of improved methods and for years served as president of the annual agricultural fair held at Remington. He came to Jasper County at a time when the whole country in this region was but sparsely settled and his good citizenship has been such that he has been a factor in the growth and development of the county. He has survived many of those who were his early neighbors but he is widely known and his circle of friends and well wishers is large. He has been permitted to live to see his children all happily settled in life and has contributed to the same and has the satisfaction of knowing that they are among the most estimable and useful people of Carpenter Township.

JACOB A. HENSLER. On other pages of this publication appears a review of the career and family record of Christian Hensler, father of him whose name introduces this paragraph, and thus it is not necessary to repeat the data in the present connection, though it may incidentally be noted that Christian Hensler was numbered among the early settlers at Remington, Jasper County, that he was born in Ohio, and that his wife, whose maiden name was Margaret Wiggins, was born in Pennsylvania, five of their eight children still surviving.

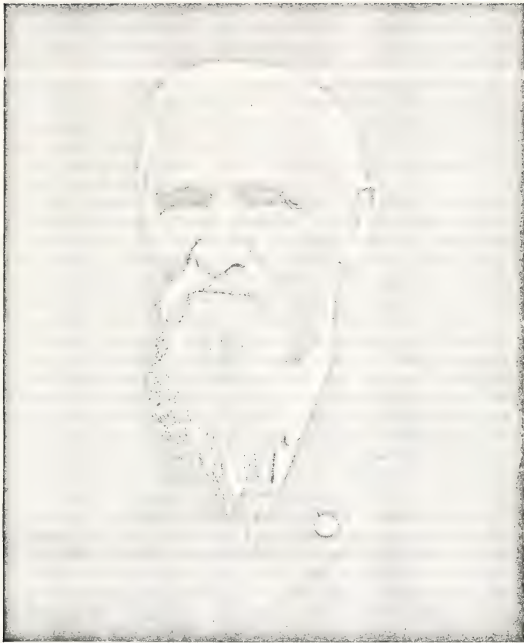




Mrs Jerome Bidelle







*JH Biddle*



Jacob A. Hensler, who is now one of the enterprising and representative merchants of Remington, where he is engaged in the grocery and meat-market business, was born in this village on the 15th of November, 1865, and he was six months old when his parents removed to their farm, four miles north and one and one-half miles West of Remington. He was reared to adult age under the sturdy discipline of the home farm, in connection with the operations of which he early found ample demands upon his time and attention, though never denied his share of youthful recreation. As a boy he was employed in herding cattle throughout the country surrounding his home, and though his educational advantages were limited he gained sufficient fundamental training to enable him to develop the broader education that is to be had only through association with the practical duties and responsibilities of a workaday world.

Mr. Hensler remained at the parental home until he had attained to the age of twenty-eight years, and shortly afterward took unto himself a wife and made ready, with his devoted young wife, to initiate an independent career. On the 17th of January, 1895, he wedded Miss Anna B. Ford, and he then engaged in farming and stock-growing on the well improved farm which he still owns, the same comprising 135 acres and being eligibly situated in Carpenter Township, four and one-half miles northeast of Remington. As a successful and industrious agriculturist and stock-grower Mr. Hensler there continued operations until the autumn of 1912, when he removed with his family to his native village of Remington, where he is now successfully established in the grocery and meat market business, with a well equipped establishment that commands a substantial and representative trade, the scope and character of the patronage indicating the confidence and esteem in which Mr. Hensler is held in the community. He has won success through close application and good business judgment, has manifested loyal interest in public affairs of a local order, has neglected none of the duties of citizenship, is a staunch supporter of the cause of the republican party, but has had no aspiration for official preferment of any description. Mr. Hensler is affiliated with the Knights of Pythias, the Masonic fraternity and the Loyal Order of Moose. He and his wife have two children: Lowell F. and Thelma.

**JEROME H. BIDDLE.** This honored and representative citizen of the Village of Remington, Jasper County, has been a resident of this section of the state for forty-five years, and the homestead farm on which he resided until his removal to Remington, in 1912, is situated in Benton County, adjacent to the line between that and Jasper counties and only  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles distant from Remington. It has been the privilege and pleasure of Mr. Biddle to render loyal aid in the civic and material development and progress of this



part of Indiana, where he has long been known and honored as a man of broad mental ken, mature judgment and sterling integrity, as well as a citizen of indefatigable energy and pronounced progressiveness and public spirit. He has shown both initiative and constructive ability in connection with business, industrial and civic affairs and thus has represented a strong and benignant force in the community, his residence in the Hoosier State having covered half a century and it having been his distinction to serve as a youthful and loyal soldier of the Union during a portion of the Civil war. He is a scion of a family that has been one of no little prominence and distinction in American annals since the early colonial era of our national history, and representatives of the name have held positions of high public trust. The representative Biddle family of Pennsylvania is of collateral kinship to that of which the subject of this review is a member, and readers of American history will recall the influential part that was played in connection with the nation's fiscal affairs by Hon. Nicholas Biddle, at the time of the administration of President Jackson. Various states of the Union have been honored by the character and services of members of this family, and the genealogical record in general is one in which any scion may well take pride. The original American progenitors of the Biddle family came from England to the colonies of the New World in 1634, and of its representatives in Indiana undoubtedly the most distinguished figure is the late Judge Horace P. Biddle, who served many years on the bench in Cass County and later on that of the Supreme Court of the State. He was a man of eminent intellectuality, accumulated one of the largest and best private libraries in the state, and passed the closing years of his long and useful life on his idyllic little homestead, known as Biddle's Island, in the Wabash River, and virtually a part of the City of Logansport. He whose name initiates this article is the only representative of his or earlier generations of the family who has ever lived in Jasper County, and when he established his home in this section of the state, Remington, now a most modern, vigorous and attractive little town, was little more than a hamlet, with no sidewalks and with little else to distinguish it from a rural "four corners" community. He himself has played a meritorious part in the development and upbuilding of the village and surrounding districts, and few citizens are more widely known, none held in greater esteem than this sterling pioneer of the middle pioneer era.

Mr. Biddle was born in Fleming County, Kentucky, on the 29th of November, 1845, and is one of the seven children of Stephen P. and Elizabeth (Shockey) Biddle. After the death of his first wife, who was a native of Kentucky, Stephen P. Biddle married Eveline Ross, and of the children of this union two attained to adult age. The second wife died in the prime of womanhood and later Mr. Biddle married Catherine Duvall, who bore him one child.

Stephen P. Biddle likewise was born in Fleming County, Ken-



tucky, and was a son of Stephen Biddle, who was a native of New Jersey, whence he removed to Maryland, in which latter state he maintained his home until his removal to Kentucky, where he became a pioneer settler in Fleming County and where he and his wife passed the residue of their lives. In the climacteric period leading up to the Civil war Stephen P. Biddle was unalterably opposed to any action looking to the dismemberment of the Union and when the war was precipitated he was one of those loyal Kentuckians whose efforts made possible the keeping of the Bluegrass State in the Union, though it will be recalled that great power and influence were exerted to bring about its secession. As he lived in a community in which Confederate sympathizers and supporters were much in preponderance he found his surroundings anything but agreeable at the time of the war, and to save annoyance and humiliation to himself and other members of his family he removed to Illinois, in which state he continued his residence until his death, his third wife dying a number of years before him.

Jerome H. Biddle was reared to adult age on the homestead farm of his father, in Fleming County, Kentucky, and such were the conditions and exigencies of time and place that his early educational advantages were somewhat limited, though adequate to form the foundation on which he has since upbuilt the stable superstructure of broad and comprehensive knowledge which he has gained through well ordered reading and other self-application, as well as through association with men and affairs. He is a man of alert mentality and has at all times kept in touch with current events, the questions and issues of the hour, and is well fortified in his convictions and opinions, the courage of which he has never lacked, though he failed to manifest the slightest intellectual bigotry or intolerance. It may be said also that he has read with circumspection and appreciation much of the best in classical and general English literature, and that he continues to find unalloyed pleasure and satisfaction in his communion with his large and select private library.

Mr. Biddle was not yet sixteen years of age at the inception of the Civil war and before he had attained to the age of seventeen years he contrived to realize his ambition, prompted by youthful loyalty and patriotism, and to tender his services in defense of the cause of the Union. On the 20th of July, 1862, he enlisted in Company K, Seventh Kentucky Cavalry, and with this gallant command his first engagement with the enemy was at Big Hill, Kentucky. Somewhat later he took part in a spirited engagement at Richmond, that state, at which place he was captured and paroled. He took part in three battles, was made corporal of his company, and his period of active military service covered four months. His enlistment took place when he was but sixteen years old and his father refused to permit him to re-enlist after the expiration of his original term of service.





At the age of twenty years Mr. Biddle initiated his independent career by engaging in farming on shares, in Indiana. Later he broadened his experience by teaching in rural schools and clerking in mercantile establishments in Indiana, to which state he came in 1865, shortly prior to the celebration of his twentieth birthday anniversary. During the first five years of his residence in Indiana Mr. Biddle maintained his home in Montgomery County, and he then removed to Benton County, where he rented land and engaged in farming in Gilboa Township. After three years of operations under these conditions he purchased a tract of 160 acres in Gilboa Township, contiguous to the Jasper County line, this property having virtually no improvements of appreciable order and but a minor part of the tract having been brought under cultivation. With characteristic energy and circumspection he bent his efforts to the reclaiming and improving of the property, which is now one of the most valuable and productive farms in Benton County and the ownership of which he still retains, the place, as previously intimated, being but  $2\frac{1}{4}$  miles distant from Remington, to which village he removed in December, 1912. Here he has since lived virtually retired, finding adequate demands upon his time and attention in according a general supervision of his farm and varied capitalistic interests and having no desire to make retirement imply inactivity or sybaritic ease.

Mr. Biddle was one of the organizers of the Remington State Bank, was its first vice-president and later served one year as president. He continued a member of its directorate until 1914 and is still one of its stockholders. Mr. Biddle is vice-president of the Fountain Park Assembly, and was one of the organizers of the Farmers' Mutual Insurance Association of Benton, White and Jasper Counties, of which he served six years as president. He has exercised large and conspicuous influence also in almost every other undertaking that has inured to the development and progress of Remington and vicinity, and has stood exponent of vigorous and helpful civic loyalty. He headed the petition for the first gravel road in this section, the same starting at the line between Jasper and Benton counties and continuing to Fowler, the judicial center of the latter county. In his honor this highway has been named the Biddle Gravel Road. At the time of this writing, in the autumn of 1915, Mr. Biddle is the Indiana vice-president of the Farmers' National Congress, in the affairs and work of which splendid organization he has taken vital interest.

In politics Mr. Biddle is found staunchly aligned in the ranks of the progressive republican party, which has always held his allegiance; he is affiliated with the Masonic fraternity; and for several years past has held the office of commander of the Remington post of the Grand Army of the Republic, through his affiliation with which he perpetuates the more gracious memories and associations of his youthful military career. Both he and his good wife hold



membership in the Missionary Baptist Church, and in all consistency may it be said that their circle of friends is limited only by that of their acquaintances. Identified with Sunday school work, Mr. Biddle helped to organize the first rural Sunday school in the vicinity of his father's home in Illinois, and acted as secretary, and taught a class in the school. He also helped to organize the first Sunday school of the Missionary Baptist Church at Waynetown, and was its secretary and taught the Men's Bible class. He helped to organize one, superintended two Sabbath schools at different times in Benton County, and is now teaching an organized adult ladies' class in the Presbyterian Sunday school in Remington. He helped to organize and was president of the first farmers' club in Gilboa Township, Benton County, and also petitioned for and had granted the first public ditch in his vicinity. It drains a great deal of valuable land, and bears his name. He also took an active part in farmers' institute work, was president of the Farmers' Institute at Remington and an advocate of better and more scientific farming; helped to organize the first Horse Thief Detective Association in Gilboa Township, Benton County, and acted as its president and was also a charter member of a horse thief detective company at Waynetown, Indiana, when the Wabash Valley was infested with horse thieves and saw some service in running them down and bringing them to justice.

On January 17, 1869, Mr. Biddle married Miss Lydia J. Merrell of Waynetown, Montgomery County, in which vicinity she was born and reared. Of their two children the firstborn died in infancy.

Daniel W. Biddle, the only living son of Mr. and Mrs. Jerome Biddle, is one of the prominent young agriculturists of Benton County. He received a good education, first in the local common schools, the Remington High School and two years in the State University at Bloomington. He married Miss Janie Bartee, a native of Downers Grove, Illinois, and of English-Scotch parentage. She is a graduate of the Remington High School. There were two children born to their union: Chester B., a first year's student in the Remington High School; and Charles J.

Daniel Biddle and wife are both members of the Presbyterian Church at Remington and he is superintendent of the Sunday School and also on the church official board. He is affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and is president of the Farmers Elevator Company at Remington and secretary of the Farmers Mutual Insurance Company of Benton, Jasper and White counties, and a director in the Remington State Bank. He resides on his own farm of 160 acres in Benton County and he also has eighty acres in White County.

Dan Merrell, father of Mrs. Jerome H. Biddle, was one of the prominent early settlers and citizens of Montgomery County, Indiana. He was born in Butler County, Ohio, in 1819, and died after a long and useful and honorable career, May 4, 1894. His last years



were spent on a fine country home in Wayne Township of Montgomery County. His grandfather was a native of England, but born of German parentage, and he died in Ohio in the fullness of time. Benjamin Merrell, father of Dan, was born in Ohio, representing a pioneer family and in turn himself becoming a pioneer, migrating with his wife and children to Montgomery County, Indiana, in 1827. He was one of the first to settle in what is now Ripley Township, locating on a tract of government land on the Perryville Road and spending his few remaining years in the hard task of producing a farm from the forest. Death stayed his labors in 1833. His widow survived until an advanced age in 1879. Their six children were: Dan; Sarah, who married William White; Anna, who first married a Mr. Boyd, and later a Mr. Brown; Effie, who married Mr. White; James, who was born after the family came to Indiana and married Miss Rosanna Reede; and John, who fought with an Iowa regiment during the Civil war and died from disease contracted in the army.

Starting out for himself, Dan Merrell went to Waynetown and worked at his trade as a cooper, but subsequently bought eighty acres of land and paid for it by working at his trade. He added to his first purchase until his homestead comprised about 100 acres, and it was well equipped with buildings and all improvements necessary to make a valuable country estate. Early in his career his house and much of his property were destroyed by fire, but by patient labor he made up the loss and spent his last years in comfortable circumstances.

In Wayne Township of Montgomery County he married in 1843 Ann Tracy, daughter of Basil Tracy. Her death occurred in 1861, after they had lived happily together for eighteen years. Their eight children were: Mary Elizabeth, who was born in 1844 and married Mr. Shipman; Sarah Ann, who was born in 1847 and died in 1848; Lydia, who was born in 1849 and is Mrs. J. H. Biddle; Thomas, born in 1851; Basil T., who was born in 1853 and married a Miss Bonnell; Nancy A., born in 1856; William B., born in 1858; and John D., born in 1860. In 1863 Dan Merrell married Mary Combs, who was born in Kentucky. She died in 1891, about three years before her husband.

Dan Merrell lived an exemplary life, in keeping with the precepts and teachings of Christianity, and for many years was active in the Baptist Church. He was always interested in politics as a democrat, and filled with credit a number of local offices. He was justice of the peace and assessor for six years and at one time supervisor of the township.

HENRY T. GRIGGS. It is not only as one of the oldest residents but as one of the most successful business men and most public spirited citizens that Henry T. Griggs is known in Newton County, where he has had his home almost half a



century. While he is now living retired in a handsome and comfortable residence at Goodland, his influence is still felt in the pulse of business activity, and he is generally reputed to be the richest citizen of Goodland and has some of the largest and best real estate holdings in the county. Mr. Griggs has well deserved all his fair prosperity, since in his earlier years he put no dependence upon influential friends or upon luck as an element in fortune, but succeeded by doing the duty nearest to him and constantly working for the future.

So far as the records of history state, Henry T. Griggs was probably the first white boy born in Morris, Grundy County, Illinois. His birth occurred there October 29, 1845, at what was then the village of Morris. His parents were Peter and Catherine (Moore) Griggs, natives of Pennsylvania and of English and German stock. They were among the early settlers in Grundy County, Illinois, and his father built the second house in the village of Morris.

In that locality Henry T. Griggs grew to manhood, gained an education in the local schools, and was not yet nineteen years of age when he volunteered his services to the defense of the Union. He enlisted at Morris January 2, 1864, in Company C of the 76th Illinois Volunteer Infantry. He was in the army until gaining his honorable discharge at Springfield, Illinois, June 6, 1866. He fought in the ranks, and his most important service was in the storming of Fort Blakely, on Mobile Bay. In that engagement the detachment of forty-six men of which he was a member lost nineteen in the brief period of eighteen minutes. He was also in several other skirmishes.

After his return as a veteran soldier, he spent two years on a farm in Grundy County, Illinois, and then in 1868 identified himself permanently with Newton County as an early settler in Iroquois Township. His location was in Section 34, and there he started farming and general stock raising, at first on a modest scale, until his efforts brought him a cumulative prosperity, and gradually his interests extended until he became an important land holder and one of the county's leading business men.

From his farm in Iroquois Township Mr. Griggs moved to Goodland in 1888, and now for more than a quarter of a century has been identified with that town. On March 29, 1889, he married Miss Clara Retterath, a daughter of Peter and Clara Retterath of Iroquois Township. Her parents were among the very early settlers there, and were of German descent. Two children were born to their marriage: Frank died in infancy, and Ella T. is the wife of George O. Bales and they live in Goodland.

Ever since the war Mr. Griggs has been a steady supporter of the republican party. He served as a member of the town board for one term, two terms as county commissioner, but each time his election to office was in response to a general demand





and not of his own seeking. He is affiliated with Lodge No. 445, Free and Accepted Masons; with the Knights of Pythias at Goodland, and with Goodland Post No. 57, Grand Army of the Republic, in which he has taken much interest and has served as past commander. Mr. Griggs was one of the organizers of The State Trust & Savings Bank of Goodland and is still one of its directors. He was associated with Grant Hall and L. A. Wiels as receivers for the defunct Goodland Bank. Altogether Mr. Griggs owns about 1,000 acres of land in this section of Indiana and most of it is thoroughly improved and productive of crops and live stock. He is well able to retire and may take great satisfaction in reviewing the busy and productive past.

JOHN FRANKLIN<sup>8</sup> BRUNER. He who would reach the goal of prosperity must travel by the road of diligence. There are few short cuts, and these are closed to the average wayfarer on life's journey. The most successful men are usually the hardest workers, and it is generally the case that the hardest workers in every community are its most representative citizens. Among the stirring, successful men of Jasper County is John Franklin Bruner, whose record as farmer, business man, and promoter of an important public enterprise deserves a place in this volume. Mr. Bruner is a native of this state, having been born on a farm in Wabash County, February 28, 1860. When only four years old he was left an orphan by the death of his parents, Joseph and Lydia Bruner, and when eight years old he was brought to Jasper County by his married sister, Mrs. Mary E. Robinson. He was practically reared in Keener Township, and although his sister treated him well and did for him what she could, he was deprived as a child of parental love and care. His educational advantages were extremely limited and such knowledge as he has was principally obtained through reading and observation. Until he was twenty years old he was employed in farming, after which he embarked in mercantile pursuits, beginning in a small way at Demotte. For a short time he conducted business alone, after which he took as partner Seth J. Bentley, and they operated a store together until 1883. Mr. Bruner then disposed of his interests to his partner and resumed farming, locating for this purpose in Marion Township. From there he went to Pleasant Ridge, and then back to Demotte, his return to the latter place being in or about 1895. Here he against engaged in mercantile business, but later sold out and moved to Surrey, where he conducted a store in association with his brother-in-law, G. M. Wilcox. After awhile, however, Demotte again attracted him and he returned and resumed business there. Soon after he was elected trustee of Keener Township and served by re-elections some 7½ years. In 1895 Mr. Bruner came to Rensselaer as proprietor of the Makeever Hotel, which he operated two years. He then associated himself with Abraham Halleck



in establishing a telephone exchange in Rensselaer for the Halleck Telephone Company. This enterprise having proved successful, Mr. Bruner continued in the telephone business with Mr. Halleck and Dr. Merry, establishing an exchange at Mount Ayr, and eventually, with Dr. J. W. Merry, obtaining control of the south half of Jasper County, Mr. Halleck controlling the north half. Later, by special agreement, arrangement was made with the Jasper Telephone Company to do the switch work in Rensselaer for them. Some time after this Mr. Bruner and Dr. Merry separated their interests, Mr. Bruner assuming control of the business at Rensselaer and Dr. Merry at Mount Ayr. In April, 1915, Mr. Bruner bought the Dr. Merry interests at Mount Ayr and controlled the two until June 1, 1915, when he sold the Rensselaer part to the Jasper County Telephone Company. He yet, however, owns the Mount Ayr exchange.

Mr. Bruner is a republican in politics with strong progressive tendencies. He is an Encampment degree Odd Fellow and a Knight of Pythias, while his religious affiliations are with the Methodist Episcopal Church. To his marriage with Mahala J. Wilcox, solemnized on his twenty-first birthday, six children have been born: Jesse Franklin, Ora Fern, Earl E., True, Cora J. and Marie.

BENJAMIN WALTER PRATT, M. D. In the well chosen words of the minister who spoke the funeral address after the death of Dr. Pratt at Goodland on April 16, 1913, "it is not in my power to say anything that will add to your esteem and love for your physician, your neighbor, your friend. Yet you are unwilling to place his body in the tomb without some expression of love and reference. Some offering of praise to God for the gift he bestowed on our brother. A community's glory is not in its size or wealth, but in its collected glory of her men. Such men have a right to a monument, not of marble alone, but in warm hearts and emulation of their best in our lives."

In those few words is found perhaps the best expression of the esteem in which the late Dr. Pratt was held in Goodland and the surrounding country for his many years of faithful and unselfish service, not only as a physician, but as a friend, banker and business man, and one who exerted his influence without stint for the welfare of a better and greater Goodland.

He was born at Johnstown, Ohio, February 6, 1859, and had finished his life work at the age of fifty-four. His parents were Dr. Benjamin W. and Jane M. (Bean) Pratt, also natives of Ohio and of old Yankee stock. The father was likewise a successful physician, but lived on a farm for many years.

It was on that old Ohio farm that the late Dr. Pratt grew to manhood. After finishing the course of the public high school, he took up the study of medicine under Dr. William Page, and in 1882 he took his degree M. D. from the Starling Medical College of Col-



umbus, Ohio. At that time his uncle and aunt, Cary M. and Meroa W. Hopkins, lived in Goodland and it was through their influence that the young physician identified himself with Newton County in May following his graduation. Here he was in practice as a partner of Dr. Lovett until June, 1883. He then decided to change his location, going first to Kokomo and back to his native village of Johnstown, Ohio, where he practiced about two years. While in Goodland he had built up a circle of warm and admiring friends, and it was at their repeated solicitation that he returned to the community in 1885. That was thenceforth his home and the scene of his best endeavors for nearly thirty years. For twenty-two years he practiced medicine in Goodland and vicinity. He was devoted to his profession, kept abreast of all development, and was regarded as almost faultless in his power as a diagnostician and also in those finer faculties which have been so much esteemed in the type of the old family physician. He had lofty ideals and was a man of great breadth of sympathy and continued in practice until his health and strength would no longer permit, and retired in 1904.

What he accomplished as a constructive business man should not be allowed to pass unmentioned. He became president of the First National Bank of Goodland when it was organized on August 15, 1905, and held that position until his death. In 1897 he became president of the Newton County Building & Loan Association, directed its affairs until they were in a most prosperous condition, then from 1903 to 1911 was connected with the association as vice president and at the latter date resumed his former position as president. For many years he was a member of the school board, and the closing of the schools during his funeral was a deserved tribute to what he had done in their behalf. In fact, all business in the town was suspended during the hour of his funeral and men of all classes united in this impressive acknowledgment of the position and influence he had long held. Not only in his home community but in this entire section of Indiana was he known and respected. A large number of his brother physicians gathered and paid their distinctive tribute to his memory. He was a member of the State Medical Society, and was a staunch republican politically.

On February 9, 1887, Dr. Pratt married Miss Leona Petit. Her parents Antoine and Felicie Petit were natives of France and coming to America in the early '50s settled in Iroquois County, Illinois. Surviving Dr. Pratt are his widow Mrs. Pratt and one daughter, Mary Lucile, wife of Von D. Johnson of Kokomo. Mrs. Johnson is the mother of two children, Felicie Jane and Benjamin Pratt. Dr. Pratt also left a brother, Father Robert Pratt of Kokomo and a sister Mrs. Laura Recher of Morocco.

In order to give this brief record of an important life in Newton County as a proper conclusion should be quoted the words of an editorial that appeared in the Goodland Herald. "This commun-





LOLA ESTHER SKINNER







MAPLE LAWN  
Residence of Mr. and Mrs. James Skinner.



ity has lost a man who was first to place a shoulder to the wheel of progress and benefit. As a practicing physician he entered almost every home and has administered medical aid which saved many lives, and there were those who when in financial need have placed their troubles before him, and if he found them worthy and sincere they were given aid. After he had retired from the practice of medicine he assisted the family physician in cases that were hard to master and would not take a cent for his services.

"The doctor was a great temperance worker and the fruits of his labors are now in evidence—the saloons having been closed. He was a firm believer in the laws of our country and always lent his aid to have them enforced in his community. He was a man who united sound sense with strong convictions, and a candid, outspoken temper, eminently fitted to mold the rude elements of pioneer society into form and consistency and aid in raising a high standard of citizenship in our young and growing county."

**JAMES SKINNER.** Perhaps no part of Jasper County is more substantially settled than is Carpenter Township. There large farms prevail and the land is well cultivated and well improved. A number of the prosperous farmers and stockraisers here are members of families established here when pioneer conditions yet prevailed and these families have had much to do with the developing of the land and establishing the present high state of civilization. A prominent family of this type bears the name of Skinner and a leading member is James Skinner, who resides on his valuable farm of 100 acres, situated on section 33, Carpenter Township. He also has eighty acres in White County, making a total of 180 acres.

James Skinner was born at Sandwich, Illinois, August 12, 1866, and is a son of Samuel J. and Fannie (Daykin) Skinner. Both parents were born in England, the father in Nottinghamshire, November 22, 1827, and the mother in Derbyshire, December 21, 1827. They married there and afterward, on January 19, 1866, sailed for the United States, reaching the harbor of New York on February 8 of the same year. Samuel Skinner desired to follow an agricultural life and in search of suitable environment and conditions, brought his family to Sandwich, Illinois. He was practically without capital but he possessed courage and industry and soon found employment and engaged in farming near Sandwich for eleven years. He then moved to White County, Indiana, and invested in eighty acres of land in Princeton Township and for many years thereafter engaged successfully in general farming and stock-raising, making a specialty of hogs. The last ten years of his life were spent with his son James, in Carpenter Township, where he owned 100 acres of well improved land at the time of his death, on March 12, 1913, having survived his wife eleven years, she passing away on August 30, 1902. They had four children, three of whom died in infancy. Samuel Skinner and wife were members



of the Methodist Episcopal Church. They were estimable in every relation of life and were very highly respected. Mr. Skinner identified himself with the republican party but he never consented to serve in any public capacity.

James Skinner was educated in the public schools. He has devoted his life to agricultural pursuits, adopting progressive methods. His farm has been well tiled and is all under cultivation and the substantial improvements have all been made by Mr. Skinner. He has been very successful in raising a fine grade of stock. Mr. Skinner is one of the intelligent, wide awake agriculturists and his land, stock and surroundings all give proof of excellent management.

On March 27, 1895, James Skinner was united in marriage with Miss Mary C. Long, who was born in Jasper County, Indiana, February 14, 1866, the fifth of the six children born to Oliver M. and Charlotte (Hudson) Long. The children are all living and are: Sarah E., the wife of E. H. Blake, a farmer of Wabash, Indiana; Joseph E., a blacksmith at Milburne, Texas, married Mary Johns; Emma J., the wife of Perry Coon, a farmer at Oto, Iowa; Martha J., the wife of Christopher Routh, of Remington, Indiana; Mrs. Skinner; and Charlotte C., the wife of William Weiss, of Wabash, Indiana. Mr. Long, the father, was a native of the State of Maryland, was reared, educated and married there, and became an agriculturist. He gave his political support to the democratic party, and was a member of the United Brethren Church. At the time of the removal West the family located in Cass County, Indiana, and from there came to Jasper County and purchased eighty acres of land. But Mr. Long sold that farm in 1877 and went to Tennessee, and thence to Texas, where he died on the 10th of November, 1908. Mrs. Long, who was also born in Maryland, died in Jasper County, Indiana, August 25, 1767, when her daughter Mary was but a child. Mrs. Skinner was reared, and received her educational training in Jasper County. She is a devout member of the Methodist Episcopal Church and also of the Ladies Home Missionary Society. The only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Skinner, Lola Esther, graduated from the Remington High School with the class of 1915, and then pursued a course in the state normal school at Terre Haute, after which she taught one year in her home township. Mr. Skinner and family are active workers in the Methodist Episcopal Church at Remington. In politics a republican, on numerous occasions he has been an important factor in township political councils and has served efficiently as road supervisor and on the township advisory board.

HENRY O. HARRIS. Jasper County, Indiana, owes much of its prosperity to natives of other states, who, coming here in early, or more mature, manhood, have taken a prominent part in its development and upbuilding. One of its best known citizens of this class



is Henry O. Harris, now living in Rensselaer, who was born in Nansmond County, Virginia, on November 5, 1831. His parents were Benjamin T. and Elizabeth (Faulk) Harris, and he is a grandson of Dr. Thomas Harris, a physician, who, born in 1740, married at the age of sixty years Unity Ladd, and lived to see two of his grandchildren, dying when eighty-eight years old. For nearly sixty years he was a medical practitioner in the Old Dominion. At one time he owned slaves, but his religious scruples as a Quaker finally caused him to set them free.

Benjamin T. Harris, son of the doctor and father of Henry O., was a farmer and trader. After marrying Elizabeth Faulk, he removed in 1835 to Indiana, settling on the edge of the Wea Plains in Tippecanoe County. There he passed the remainder of his life, dying about the year 1839. He and his wife had four sons and two daughters, of which children but three are now living, all being residents of Jasper County. In the fall of 1851 Mrs. Harris removed with her six children to Newton County, locating near Mount Ayr, on a farm now owned by the subject of this memoir. The land for the most part was entered and was obtained by Mexican war grants. Here Mrs. Harris kept her little family together, and finally died about the year 1857.

Henry O. Harris had preceded the rest of the family to Newton County, his arrival there being in the spring of 1851, at which time he selected the land upon which they subsequently located. He was reared after the manner of farmers' boys of his time, and was able to supplement his district school education by a two years' course at Franklin College. He has always followed farming and stock raising as an occupation, but in addition to this has been identified with other business ventures. In 1890, together with David Nowles, he organized the Rensselaer Bank, of which he became president, and of which his son, Joseph, later on became cashier. About two years after its organization Mr. Nowles retired from the bank and thereafter it was owned and conducted by Henry O. and Joseph Harris, father and son. This bank continued in active existence for some twenty years and was finally discontinued because, for one thing, of the death of Joseph Harris, the active partner, in 1908. Henry O. Harris, about the year 1892, established the Remington Bank, of which he was president until he finally disposed of it a year or so prior to the disposal of the Rensselaer Bank. Since that time he has devoted the greater part of his time to looking after his farming interests, having now over 2,000 acres in Newton and Jasper Counties. Mr. Harris is a member of the Missionary Baptist Church and is a republican. He married in 1857 Margaret Kennedy of Newton County, and they became the parents of four children: Elbert T., Joseph C., Virginia, and Jessie, who is the wife of Charles Roberts. Diligent in business, and honorable in all his relations with his fellow men,





Mr. Harris may well be regarded as a type of the higher class of American citizenship.

GEORGE PARKER. On an excellent farmstead in Hanging Grove Township seven and a half miles Northeast of Rensselaer, George Parker is successfully engaged in diversified agriculture and the raising of stock. He is one of the honored citizens of Jasper County, was born here and has been a resident practically all his career, and commands the confidence and esteem of all who have known him from earliest youth. While his work as a farmer has brought him substantial prosperity, his relations with the community have also been useful and have contributed to the welfare of the vicinity and for many years he has held one or other office in the township.

His father was the late Samuel Parker, whose was born in Virginia and his body is now at rest in the Osborne Cemetery in Hanging Grove Township. His parents were George and Rebecca Parker, both of whom were born in Virginia of German and French descent and died there. Four of the children, Jerome, Samuel, Isaac and Mary Ann, emigrated from Virginia to LaPorte County, Indiana, Samuel being at the time about fourteen years of age. He accordingly grew up in northern Indiana, and was married in LaPorte County to Elizabeth Evans, a daughter of Isaac Evans, who was born in Ohio of Welsh descent. Samuel and Elizabeth Parker became the parents of nine children, as follows: Almira, deceased; Isaac, who married Ella Cody and lives at Mitchell, South Dakota; Felix who married Celista Gwin and lives at Hersher, Illinois; Albert, deceased; Jacob, who married Etna English, and both are now deceased; Ida married Frank Kenton and lives near Mitchell, South Dakota; George, who is the next in line; Samuel, who married Cora Maxwell and lives at Mitchell, South Dakota; and Emma, deceased. It was in 1854, more than sixty years ago, that Samuel Parker brought his little family to Hanging Grove Township, and located on a tract of forty acres, with very few improvements, in Section 8. At the time his possessions consisted of two yoke of oxen, one horse and \$10 in money. He prospered by hard work, and at one time was considered among the wealthiest men in Hanging Grove Township. He was generous to a fault, was always willing to accommodate his friends, and it is said that no one ever requested a favor which was not granted. This prompted him to place his name as security to many notes and other obligations, and for this reason and for various reverses he lost a great deal of his property and died a comparatively poor man. Many years ago he kept a few race horses, though he never employed them for gambling. While a man of little education he enjoyed the perfect esteem of his community, and was a useful and honorable citizen in every respect. He voted first the whig and later the republican ticket and for many years



served as township supervisor, but would never consent to hold any other office. In church matters he was a Methodist.

His son, George Parker, was born January 19, 1864, in Section 17 of Hanging Grove Township, and in Jasper County he has spent all his subsequent years, and his residence has been in Hanging Grove Township with the exception of eighteen months. After getting his education in the local schools he applied the experience gained as a boy to the vocations of farming and stock raising, and from those sources has accumulated an ample prosperity for himself and family.

On September 8, 1886, George Parker married Elizabeth Peregrine, a daughter of Ebenezer and Elizabeth (Robinson) Peregrine, the former a native of Ohio and the latter of Rush County, Indiana. The Peregrine stock is Welsh and English, though for many generations the family has been identified with America. Four children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Parker: Verne E. is the wife of Royal L. Bussell, of one of the prominent old families of Jasper County, and they live at McCoysburg; Gaylord P. married Gertrude Downs and lives in Marion Township; Ethel M. is the wife of Morris Jacks and lives at Lee in White County; Gladys is deceased.

Throughout his career Mr. Parker has been a loyal republican in politics, and while he has done much to promote party success he has likewise worked effectually to advance the best interests of his community and has filled several important offices. For eight years he was township supervisor, was township trustee six years, and since January, 1915, has filled the post of township assessor. He and his wife are members of the Methodist Church. Mr. and Mrs. Parker have one of the old parchment deeds executed under the hand and seal of President John Tyler, dated June 25, 1841. This is the first deed found in Jasper County, Indiana, by the biographer and is a valuable heirloom.

**EZRA BOWMAN.** Nearly half a century ago, in 1869, Mr. Bowman established his residence and smithy in the scattering and obscure little hamlet of Remington, Jasper County, which was then represented by a comparatively small number of dwellings and a few business places of primitive order, the place having had no sidewalks and none of the municipal and general civic improvements that designate the thriving and attractive little city of the present day. During the long intervening years, as a staunch and loyal citizen, Mr. Bowman has here maintained his home, has participated in the activities that have made for social and material advancement and prosperity, and for many years he here plied his sturdy trade of blacksmith, like Tubal Cain, a man of might, even as he has been one true to principle and worthy purpose in all of the relations of life, so that he has not been denied the fullest measure of popular confidence and good will. He is now

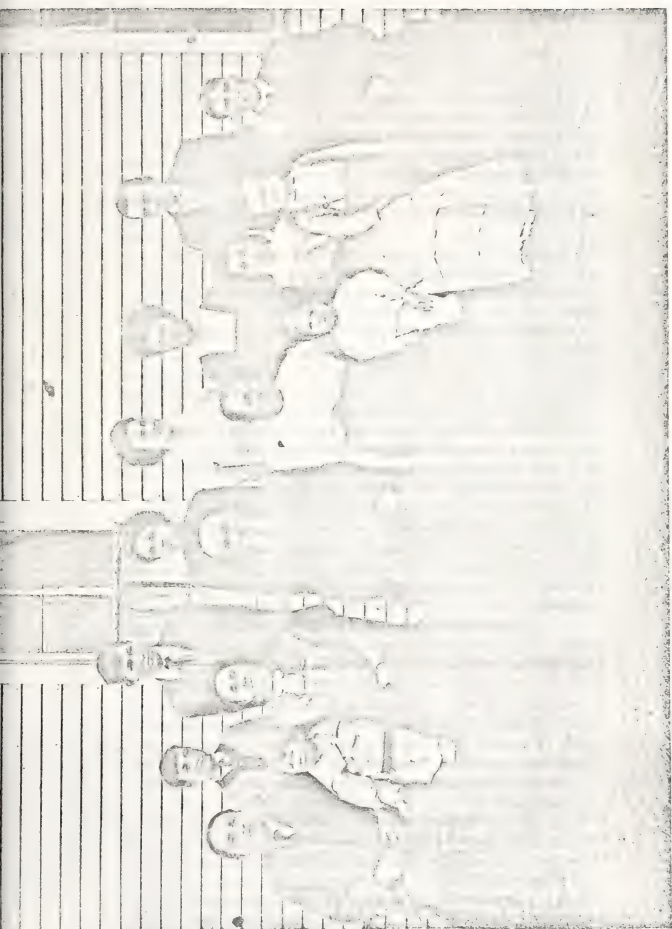


living virtually retired, in the enjoyment of the peace and comfort that justly reward former years of earnest toil and endeavor. It was his as a youth to render valiant service as a soldier of the Union in the Civil war, and the same spirit of loyalty and patriotism has animated him during all the later years.

Mr. Bowman was born on the homestead farm of his father, in Cumberland County, Pennsylvania, on the 16th of November, 1844, the second in order of birth of a family of nine children, all of whom are living except one. They were all born and reared in Cumberland County and there they gained their early education in the common schools of the period, the while the home discipline was such as to fortify them admirably for lives of honor and usefulness. Mr. Bowman is a son of Samuel and Mary (Monny-smith) Bowman, both of whom continued their residence on their old home farm in Cumberland County, Pennsylvania, until their death, the mother having been summoned to the life eternal in 1862 and the father in 1866.

As a boy and youth Ezra Bowman contributed his quota to the work of the home farm, the while he availed himself also of the advantages of the local schools, and his first independent work was that rendered as an employe on a neighboring farm. When the Civil war was precipitated and the integrity of the nation was placed in jeopardy, young Bowman, as soon as circumstances permitted, gave distinctive evidence of his patriotism by tendering his aid in defense of the Union. In June, 1863, about six months prior to his nineteenth birthday anniversary, he enlisted in Company K, Twentieth Pennsylvania Cavalry, and after the expiration of his term he promptly re-enlisted, as a member of Company D, Seventh Pennsylvania Cavalry, with which gallant command he continued in active service until victory had crowned the Union arms and peace had been restored. Under his first enlistment he was in service with the forces operating in the more Eastern parts of the stage of conflict, and after his re-enlistment he proceeded with his command to join General Sherman's army, which had already fought the battles of Chickamauga, Lookout Mountain and Missionary Ridge. Mr. Bowman took part with his regiment in the battle of Dallas, Georgia, in which he received a slight wound, and thereafter he took part, in consecutive order, in the engagement at Noonday Creek, the battles of Kenesaw Mountain and Big Shanty, and the siege and capture of the city of Atlanta. After the capitulation of Atlanta his command was sent out to Jonesboro to destroy the railroad, and then fought at Lovejoy's Station. Upon the return to Atlanta the regiment was dismounted, its cavalry equipment being turned over to General Kilpatrick, and was sent back to Nashville, Tennessee, where its members, as dismounted cavalry, joined the army of General "Pap" Thomas. Somewhat later the Seventh Pennsylvania Cavalry was sent to Louisville, Kentucky, where it was remounted and provided with





FAMILY GROUP OF MRS. SARAI L. JORDAN





proper cavalry equipment once more, after which it was sent to Gravelly Springs, Alabama, to be formally organized into a cavalry corps. Proceeding under orders to the city of Mobile, the command took part en route in the engagement of Ebenezer Church, after which he continued on to Columbus, Georgia, and finally to Macon, that State, where it received news of the surrender of General Lee and also the lamentable information of the assassination of that revered and heroic patriot, President Lincoln. Mr. Bowman received his honorable discharge at Macon, Georgia, in August, 1865, and then proceeded with his command to Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, where the members of the regiment were mustered out.

In November, 1865, the gallant young veteran of the long and weary conflict through which the national integrity was preserved, entered upon an apprenticeship to the trade of blacksmith near the postoffice of Good Hope, Pennsylvania, and he soon mastered the sturdy art, with the result that he could qualify as a skilled artisan. The major part of his active career was marked by close application to his trade, and as an exponent of the same he established himself in business upon coming to Remington, Indiana, in 1869, his activities in this line of business having continued until 1908, since which time he has lived virtually retired,—a man of brain and brawn and one who has played a man's part in all of the relations of life. As may be presupposed, Mr. Bowman has given unfaltering allegiance to the republican party, and has been loyal to all the duties of citizenship, without being afflicted with aught of ambition for public office of any description. He and his wife are members of the Christian Church, and he vitalizes the more pleasing memories and associations of his military career and signifies his abiding interest in his old comrades in arms by his affiliation with the Grand Army of the Republic, in which he is a charter member of the post at Remington.

In December, 1870, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Bowman to Miss Sarah Harris, and of the seven children of this union five are living, brief record concerning them being entered in conclusion of this review: Fred is engaged in the drug business at Monticello, White County; Maude is the wife of Novia E. Helvie; John is associated with his brother in the drug business at Monticello; June is the wife of Maurice Peck; and Dale continues his residence in Remington and is associated with Walter Gumm.

**MRS. SARAH LOUISE JORDAN.** One of the well known and highly esteemed residents of the vicinity of Gifford, Indiana, is Mrs. Sarah Louise Jordan, who has lived in this community since 1900 and has taken a leading participation in the affairs of the locality, particularly in connection with the work of the Christian Church. Mrs. Jordan was born February 16, 1853, in Mercer County, Ohio, and is a daughter of Azariah and Lydia (Reigel) Denney.



Azariah Denney was born at Gallipolis, Ohio, August 11, 1824, and was married at Greenville, Ohio, to Miss Reigel, who was born March 6, 1836. Mr. Denney's first playmates were Indians, and his education was of a somewhat limited character as school advantages were few on the Ohio and Indiana state line in the vicinity of his home at that day. He was, however, a man of business acumen, good judgment and industry and in a long career spent in farming and stockraising was able to accumulate a valuable property in spite of his early limitations. He was a devout member of the Christian Church, as was his wife, and their children were reared in that faith. In political matters he was a democrat, and the high esteem in which he was held by his fellow-citizens was shown by the fact that although he was not a man of learning they elected him repeatedly to serve in the office of justice of the peace, a position in which his fairness and integrity served to satisfactorily settle the disputes of his neighbors. Ten children were born to Azariah and Lydia Denney, namely: Sarah Louise, James A., Anna M., Landon, deceased, Asenrath, Caroline, Florence, deceased, Jacob, Stella and Carlton.

Sarah Louise Denney started to attend the country schools of Mercer County when she was six years of age, and continued to pursue her studies until reaching young womanhood, acquiring a thorough grammar and high school education. When she was nineteen years of age she entered upon a career as a teacher in Darke County, Ohio, receiving a salary of \$1 per day, and for the next five years continued her educational labors in Ohio and Indiana, principally in the country districts. She ceased teaching at the time of her marriage, September 25, 1876, at Celina, Ohio, to William Nicholas Jordan, a son of Andrew and Amanda (Devore) Jordan, and a brother of James, John, Elizabeth and Charles Jordan. William N. Jordan was given excellent educational advantages and following his graduation from college engaged in farming in Ford County, Illinois, eventually becoming a renter on the great Sibley estate in that county. In February, 1900, Mr. and Mrs. Jordan came to Jasper County, Indiana, locating on the Cherry Island farm, where they resided for five years, and then moving to the West headquarters in Barkley Township, where Mrs. Jordan still makes her home and where her husband passed away February 5, 1910. He was a faithful member of the Christian Church, and in political matters was a republican. As a farmer he was a friend of progress, and this quality he carried into his citizenship, being ever ready to donate of his time, his ability or his means in the support of movements calculated to benefit the community or to advance the cause of education, religion or good citizenship. While residing on the Cherry Island Farm, with Mrs. Jordan's assistance, he organized the first Union Sunday school in the county, thus proving the nucleus for a work which has gone forward with much vigor. Mr. and Mrs. Jordan became the parents of nine children: Orvis, Nettie,



Day, Nellie, James, Acenath, William M., Homer and Rowena, of whom the last named is now deceased.

At the time of his death the Rensselaer Republican announcing the death of this fine citizen as a victim of pneumonia, spoke of him as follows:

"In the death of William N. Jordan of Barkley township at 1:30 o'clock this Saturday morning, the county loses one of its most upright and highly esteemed citizens and the community a man of noble life whose aim was to live righteously and to give his children a good education in order to equip them formidably for the problem of life. Mr. Jordan came to Jasper county from Illinois about ten years ago and located on one of B. J. Gifford's farms in Barkley township. Later he purchased the old Headquarters farm, which is well known as the old Sim Dowell farm, where himself and family have since resided.

"He was the father of eight children, the oldest son being a Christian minister at Evanston, Illinois; one daughter, Miss Nettie, being a trained nurse at Omaha, Nebraska, (at present superintendent of Aurora hospital, Aurora, Illinois); one daughter married and living in Hagerman, New Mexico; one daughter, Day, teaching school in Barkley township; his son James who graduated from the Rensselaer schools last year and is now a student at Purdue University. From Purdue he entered the University of Indiana and is now professor of mathematics and electricity; and three younger children, all attending the Rensselaer high school.

"Mr. Jordan was not extensively known in Rensselaer being somewhat of a retired disposition, although very jovial when he became well acquainted. Wherever known he was greatly admired and no death in Jasper county could have caused more genuine regret. A few days ago in apparent health and vigor, in anticipation of a long life of continued usefulness, the sorrow of his sudden demise sank deep into the happy home and cast a gloom among all his acquaintances."

CHARLES W. BUSSELL. Of the families who have been distinguished not only by long residence but by many useful activities in Jasper and Newton counties that of Charles W. Bussell and his relatives deserves mention among the very first. More than eighty years have passed since the first of this sterling stock became identified with Jasper County, and the history and development of Hanging Grove Township might easily be told in the annals of this single relationship. Charles W. Bussell is one of the progressive farmers in the Hanging Grove Township, and is owner of 200 acres in what is known as the Wild Game Preserve farm, situated in Sections 17, 18 and 20. His residence is just eight miles northeast of Rensselaer. Mr. Bussell has been successful in managing the resources of the soil, and has probably filled more of the local offices and for a longer continuous time



than any other local citizen. Mr. Bussell is also a practical naturalist, and has a greater fund of information concerning the birds, beasts and other features of Indiana natural history than any resident of Jasper County.

His ancestry includes a Revolutionary soldier, William Smith Bussell, great-grandfather of Charles W. This patriot fought with the Kentucky troops in the Revolutionary war. His grandfather was William S. Bussell, who was born in Rush County, Indiana, at an extremely early date in the history of this state. He served as sheriff of that county and officiated at the hanging of a noted criminal, Swanson, at Rushville in the early days. He was also a colonel in the state troops and served in that capacity under William Henry Harrison at the battle of Tippecanoe in 1811. After his death, his wife Maria (Ward) Bussell married Turner A. Knox of Rushville. Then in the fall of 1833 the family came to what is now Hanging Grove Township in Jasper County and entered 160 acres in section 23, range 5 west, township 29 north. With Mr. and Mrs. Knox came the five Bussell children, and thus was established on what was then the wild frontier the first generation of a large and extensive relationship. The five children of William S. Bussell who thus came to Jasper County in the early days were: Mary E. Westerfield, who lived at Anderson, Indiana; Matilda Eden, who became a resident of Illinois; Erastus T., of Indianapolis; Martha A. Hamilton of St. Joseph, Missouri; and William W. Their mother died in Jasper County December 25, Christmas Day, 1885, and was laid to rest in the Osborne Cemetery in Hanging Grove Township. She was born February 4, 1788, near Pittsburg, Pennsylvania. Her first husband, William S. Bussell, was born November 5, 1790, near Bowling Green, Kentucky, and died while taking a load of horses overland to Georgia. His death occurred in the State of Georgia in 1832. He was noted for his strength, his genial character, and was one of the conspicuous citizens of early Rushville. He was a Scotch-Irishman by ancestry.

William W. Bussell, who came when a child of five years to Jasper County with his mother, was born February 24, 1828; in Rush County near Rushville, and lived in Jasper County continuously from the fall of 1833 until the date of his death on December 8, 1901. He was also laid to rest in the Osborne Cemetery, where many deceased members of the family and their relatives repose. By occupation he was a farmer and stock raiser, and a man who was exceptionally progressive. He had the distinction of owning the first reaper, the first steel hay rake, and the first mower in Hanging Grove Township.

Clarissa P. Lefler, who married William W. Bussell February 14, 1850, and became the mother of Charles W. Bussell, was also of one of the most prominent early families in this section of Indiana. Her parents were John and Catherine (Chamberlain) Lefler, who came to Hanging Grove Township from Rush County.





Indiana, in the spring of 1837, entering 160 acres in section 29, range 5 west, township 29 north. This quarter section is now known as the Evaline Randall farm. John Lefler was one of the organizers of Hanging Grove Township, and as its first tax collector made the rounds and performed his official duties on horseback. North P. Lefler, a son of John Lefler, was the first school teacher in Hanging Grove Township, and the school house was the typical old-fashioned log cabin school, with its bench seats, its puncheon floor and greased paper windows, and the pupils wrote their copies with the goose quill pen fashioned by the schoolmaster. The school was maintained by subscriptions. The Lefler family is of German descent. To the marriage of William W. Bussell and wife were born eight children: Mary E. is the widow of Hugh Lowe and lives in Rensselaer; Charles W. is the second child and oldest son; Matilda E. married William E. Jacks and lives in Marion Township; Martin L. died at the age of nineteen; Florence J. passed away when two years of age; Erastus J. died in infancy as did also Cicero; and Clara Belle married Sidney B. Holmes, and lives in Miles City, Montana. The late William W. Bussell, father of these children, represented all the better things in the life of a growing community. For a number of years after coming to Jasper County he voted regularly the Whig ticket and was one of the first republicans after the organization of that party and continued a faithful member until his death. He gave much public service, serving as township trustee during 1858-59, was for years a supervisor and a member of the township board. He and his family belong to the Christian Church, and he was a charter member of Francisville Lodge of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and was honored with its different chairs.

Charles W. Bussell was born July 10, 1858, in section 32, range 5 west, township 29 north, and in that one locality his years have been successively spent with credit to himself and with many varied services to the community. On February 13, 1879, Mr. Bussell married Lucy J. Whitaker, a daughter of Lytle A. and Nancy (Logan) Whitaker of Gillam Township, but both of them were natives of Surrey County, North Carolina. Mr. and Mrs. Bussell have three children: Nellie L. is the wife of John Lefler and lives at Packard, Wisconsin; William W. is now deceased; and Royal L. lives in McCoysburg and married Verne E. Parker. The mother of these children died April 22, 1890, and was laid to rest in Gillam Township. On October 29, 1892, Mr. Bussell married Rosa J. Long, daughter of Valentine and Lydia (Swisher) Long, both of whom were natives of Jasper County and their respective families were among the earliest settlers there. To the second marriage have been born four children: Charles W. Jr., who lives in Rensselaer and married Ethel Miller; Elvin L., Cora Florence and Ella M., all of whom are at home.

One distinction which Mr. Bussell's activities have won him



is to be known as the champion wolf killer of the state of Indiana. His father also exhibited considerable prowess and skill in the same direction. Charles W. Bussell has killed fully seventy wolves. Some of these are magnificent specimens, and have been stuffed and preserved. Two specimens may be found in the Smithsonian Institute at Washington, one is in the Indiana State House Museum and two others are in the Rensselaer High School. Mr. Bussell is a skilled taxidermist and has given a great deal of care and thought to the problems connected with the preservation of wild game, and is an authority on the habits of wild geese and ducks and deer.

In the way of public service it is interesting to note that Mr. Bussell has held some sort of office since he was twenty-one years of age. He has been a republican and one of the most loyal members that party has in all the state. For sixteen years he served as supervisor, spent many years as a director of the local schools, is now and has been for a long time a republican precinct committeeman and has filled the office of justice of the peace twelve years, being still incumbent of that position. He has also been superintendent of ditches and roads in his part of the county, and is now superintendent of the Royal L. Bussell Road. He is also a substitute mail carrier, and in 1910 took the United States census in Marion Township. These various activities have been combined with the intelligent and successful management of his home farm, and he is more than a representative citizen of Jasper County. In church affairs he is a member of the Christian denomination, while his wife is a Methodist.

**WARREN E. POOLE.** When Warren E. Poole was elected township trustee of Hanging Grove Township in 1914, it was a case of the office seeking the man rather than the man the office. However, perhaps no local citizen has better qualifications for this important position of trust. Mr. Poole has been well known in Jasper County for twenty years as an energetic farmer, business man, and public spirited citizen. The care and management of school property and other affairs which go with the office of township trustee are in excellent hands.

Like a number of other enterprising agriculturists in this section of Indiana, Mr. Poole is an Illinois man by birth. He was born near Streeter in LaSalle County April 15, 1873, a son of John and Mary I. (Mitchell) Poole, who were also natives of LaSalle County, Illinois, but since the spring of 1895 have lived in Jasper County, first in Hanging Grove Township, and are now retired at Rensselaer. The Pooles are Scotch-Irish in descent, and Warren E. is the oldest of his parents' five children. The second was Clara, now deceased; Everett H. died at ten years; Willis lives in Rensselaer and married Miss Palmer; and Bradford H. is a resident of Markley Township and married Ruth Makeever.



When Warren E. Poole was two years of age the family moved from LaSalle to Livingston County, Illinois, and in that locality he grew up, received his education, gained a discipline as a farm boy, and at the age of twenty-two, two years before the removal of the rest of the family, came to Jasper County.

At Cullom, Illinois, December 20, 1894, he married Katie Kopp, a daughter of Adam and Henrietta (Soupa) Kopp, both of whom were born in Illinois but were of German families. Mr. and Mrs. Poole have three children, all of them at home, named Myrtle H., Ruth I. and Iva.

Though Mr. Poole's success has come from farming, and that has been practically his life vocation, he also spent four years in the brick business at Muncie, Indiana, and was connected with the grain business for two years at McCoysburg in Jasper County. McCoysburg is still his postoffice and market town. In politics he is a republican and it was on the ticket of that party that he was elected township trustee in the fall of 1914. He and his wife are members of the Christian Church, and he is affiliated with the Modern Woodmen of America at Rensselaer. The Poole homestead, which is a valuable place with many improvements, is located eight miles northeast of Rensselaer.

**CHARLES R. WEISS.** In Charles R. Weiss, a prosperous farmer and stockraiser of Newton Township, Jasper County, Indiana, is found a man who may justly be called self made because, beginning life as a youth without capital, through industry, honesty and good management, has risen to be one of the most substantial residents of his county, owning many acres of valuable land and enjoying the esteem and friendship of neighbors and other acquaintances. This achievement is something to be proud of. Fortunes sometimes come through doubtful channels, but when a man earns one through honest work, he is apt to know its source. This is the case with Charles R. Weiss.

Charles R. Weiss was born in LaSalle County, Illinois, March 24, 1870, and is one of a family of three sons and one daughter born to his parents, John and Augusta (Rendt) Weiss. Both parents were born in Germany and came unmarried to the United States, the father arriving about the close of the Civil war. He subsequently was married and in 1877 removed from LaSalle County, Illinois, to Newton County, Indiana, locating south of Kentland. John Weiss followed farming all through his active years. He is now a resident of Goodland, Indiana.

On his father's farm in Newton County, Charles R. Weiss grew to manhood, attending the district schools and giving help in carrying on the home farm work. Later he took a commercial course in the Ottawa Business College, Ottawa, Illinois.

On February 7, 1894, Mr. Weiss was united in marriage with Miss Gertrude Dewey, who is a daughter of Morgan A. Dewey, of



Jasper County, Indiana. To this marriage seven children have been born: John R., who was born and died in Pocahontas County, Iowa; Oscar, Leona, Harold and Alva, living; and two who died in infancy, unnamed.

Following his marriage Mr. Weiss followed farming for two years in Pocahontas County, Iowa, then returned to the old Weiss homestead and continued there until 1902, when he moved to his present home farm in Newton Township, which comprises 300 acres. In addition to this fine property he owns eighty acres in Walker Township, Jasper County, and also eighty acres in Wheatfield. Mr. Weiss is a careful farmer and all his operations are well planned and thus his farm industries mainly prove profitable.

Mr. Weiss is a republican in his political views but is one of the men who believe that in attending to one's own business affairs and leaving office-seeking to others, is the best method of getting on in the world. However he never fails to cast his vote and, whenever necessary he is ready to put his shoulder to the wheel to aid in the development of his section. He is an honest, plain, out-spoken man. He was reared in the Lutheran faith and continues his membership in that church, his wife, in the same way, being a devoted Methodist. They are among the best people of Jasper County and worthy in every way of the great respect in which they are held.

STEPHEN T. COMER. To the individual whose life began on the prairies of the Central West more than sixty-seven years ago there has been given a wealth and diversity of experience in comparison with which that of those active in the beginning of the present century pales into insignificance. Such a career has been vouchsafed to Stephen T. Comer, one of the oldest living native sons of Jasper County, who has watched and participated in the wonderful advancement of this part of the state, and who is now one of the leading and highly respected citizens of Union Township.

The progenitor of the Comer family in America was Jesse Comer, a Hessian German, who came to America with the Hessian troops during the Revolutionary war. He soon became convinced of the justice of the Colonists' cause, and, like many of his fellow-soldiers, deserted from the army of King George and subsequently became a loyal American citizen. The particular manner in which he accomplished his desertion is interesting. He had long had in mind the idea of the step he was to take, and in order to carry out his plan practiced imitating the grunt of a hog, in the meantime stirring the leaves and grass with a stick to represent the noise made by that animal in going about. When he felt that he had his imitation to perfection, and at a time when the troops were encamped upon the bank of a river, probably the Brandywine, he put his plan into execution. At the challenge of the sentinel: "Who goes there?" his answer was a grunt, accompanied by the stirring of the leaves and grass, which completely deceived the sentinel, who





ejaculated: "It's only a hog." When Mr. Comer rolled over into the river, the sentinel realized another soldier was endeavoring to desert, and he and his comrades all along the bank began firing at every suspicious sound, but by diving and swimming Mr. Comer eventually succeeded in reaching the opposite bank where he found friends and safety.

Mr. Comer subsequently located in North Carolina, where he married Nancy Ellis, and in that state his death occurred. He was the great-grandfather of William Ellis Comer and the great-great-grandfather of Stephen T. Comer, of this review. Among the sons of Jesse Comer was Josephus Comer, whose son, Jesse Comer, like his grandfather, married a lady named Ellis. This second Jesse Comer moved from North Carolina to near Zanesville, Ohio, then to Wayne County, Indiana, later to Carroll County, Indiana, and finally to Jasper County, Indiana, at a time when the county was still a wilderness practically undisturbed by the hand of man. Here he and his wife passed the remainder of their lives and passed away, being buried in Jasper County. Mrs. Comer was a member of a rich North Carolina family. When the war between the states broke out her people wrote her, in effect, that she could return and live with her people or remain with her married relations, "the Yankees," but that in the latter event she would never again be recognized as a member of the rich, slave-holding, aristocratic Ellis family of North Carolina. Mrs. Ellis, notwithstanding her grief at the separation, decided to remain with her husband. Among their children are mentioned John; William; Nancy, who married Malachi P. Prevo; Rachel, who married Greenberry Hobbs; Josiah and Thomas. Mr. and Mrs. Comer were devout members of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

William Comer was born in Muskingum County, Ohio, and was about twelve years of age when brought to Wayne County, Indiana. With his parents he came to Carroll County, where he was married to Phoebe Dewitt, a descendant of General Dewitt of Revolutionary war fame, and as a young married couple they came to Jasper County at the time of the advent of Jesse Comer. Locating in Gillam Township, they became widely known for their many acts of kindness. Mrs. Comer was a devout Christian and an able assistant to her husband, whose life work was as a minister of the Methodist Episcopal faith. She devoted her life to deeds of Christian kindness, and no one ever came to her for spiritual or material comfort without being benefited. In her later years she was almost universally known as "Grandmother" Comer. William and Phoebe Comer were the parents of ten children: Elizabeth M., who married Elijah Nelson; John E., deceased, Malachi P., who is a farmer of Barkley Township, Jasper County; William F., who is deceased; Martin, deceased, who served in the Civil war as a member of the Eighty-seventh Regiment, Indiana Volunteer Infantry; Stephen T.;



James H.; Silas F., who died in infancy; Barney D., and Jennie, who married Andrew Boston.

Stephen T. Comer was born February 14, 1848, in Gillam Township, Jasper County, and his boyhood was passed much in the same manner as other youths of his day. He received a limited education in the district schools which he attended during the short winter terms, and during the rest of the year helped in the work of the home farm, his training being such that at the age of fourteen years he capably handled a herd of 300 head of cattle. He hunted and trapped extensively and his first forty acres of land were purchased from the proceeds of furs which he sold. In the meantime he endeavored to better his education, assisted by his loving mother, and learned fractions at a night school which he organized after becoming a man. Mr. Comer recalls many interesting experiences of the early days. He remembers seeing seventy-three deer in one drove passing his home, and he has seen his dog drag down one of these noble animals, the Comer table frequently including venison as a part of the Christmas dinner. Wild geese and duck were so numerous that they were a nuisance to the early settlers, while muskrats were found in great abundance, Mr. Comer and his brother Barney catching as many as seventy-five in one day. Mr. Comer on one occasion sold twenty mink skins for \$7.75 each, and with the proceeds of this sale purchased an ox-team. His entire life has been passed in Jasper County, where at one time he owned vast tracts of land, but in his later life has sold off the greater part of this property to engage in the cattle business, and now has but 220 acres. In his long extended career in Jasper County, Mr. Comer has discharged his duties as an individual and as a citizen with unvarying fidelity. He has been identified with all movements tending to promote the best interests of his locality, and has made an irreproachable record as a man of strict probity and pure motives. A republican in his political views, he has served two terms as trustee of Union Township, and at the present time is a member of the county council of Jasper County. His fraternal connection is with Parr Lodge No. 789, of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, in which he has numerous friends. By his old neighbors and his fellow-townsmen in Union Township, he is held in the utmost respect and esteem.

On November 23, 1871, Mr. Comer was married to Miss Mary E. Daniels, whose death occurred after three years of married life. They became the parents of one son: Shelby, who married Miss Maude Lakin and has four children, Mary Ellen, Mildred Pauline, Ruth Ione and Max Edison.

BARNEY D. COMER was born in Jasper County, on the old Comer homestead, July 12, 1860, and he passed away on the 23d of May, 1916. He was a son of William and Phoebe (Dewitt) Comer.





BARNEY D. COMER FAMILY GROUP



Extended mention of the Comer family will be found in the sketch of Stephen Comer, in this volume. During boyhood, up to the age of thirteen years, Barney D. Comer found life very satisfactory, fishing and hunting assisting him to pass the time pleasantly, no compulsion being exercised to make him attend school, and, in fact, until he was twenty-four years old, he had never passed a single day in school. He knew quite a good deal about farming, however, and concerning cattle and was associated with his brother Stephen in the cattle business and proved industrious and judicious. As Mr. Comer told the story himself, the commentator may assert that about this time a young lady's refining influence had the effect of arousing his ambition and he resolved to go to school, which resolve he carried out, entering the third grade in the neighboring public school. That he was in earnest about repairing past negligence was proved before the winter was over by his becoming proficient enough to enter the seventh grade. Mr. Comer was always noted for resolution when convinced he was moving in the right direction, and he kept diligently at his books and subsequently attended two terms at the Normal School at Valparaiso, and not only that but secured a license to teach school. Following this he taught seven terms in Union Township and one in Barkley Township, proving thoroughly efficient and enjoying the experience.

On July 13, 1890, Mr. Comer was united in marriage with Miss Addie C. Bruce, the estimable young lady above referred to, and they had three children: Ernest L., who married Pearl Lilves and they have two children, Vivian and Geneve; Georgia, who died young; and Marie Annette, who was educated at Valparaiso and resides with her parents. Mrs. Comer is a daughter of Henry C. and Harriet (Babcock) Bruce and her ancestry can be traced definitely to the immortal Robert Bruce of Scotland.

In 1894 Mr. Comer embarked in farming on his home place of 100 acres and made all the substantial improvements now in evidence. From time to time as circumstances adjusted themselves and made action possible and desirable, he added to his original farm and owned about 400 acres which he devoted to diversified farming according to modern methods, raised good stock and the registered stock of the Valley L. Farms is widely and favorably known.

Mr. Comer was a member of the Methodist Protestant Church, as is also his family, although Mrs. Comer was reared a Baptist, that being the religious faith of her people. Her father was born in Vermont and her mother in New York. They were married in Tippecanoe County, Indiana, and came to Jasper County seventy years ago. Both parents of Mrs. Comer are deceased, their burial being in the Crockett Cemetery. The father was a farmer and stockraiser and at one time was a man of prominence and of large estate in Jasper County. He was a republican in politics as was Mr. Comer. The latter was always busy with his own affairs and





not anxious to accept public office, but he twice served as township trustee, once by appointment and once by election. For many years he was a member of the lodge of Odd Fellows at Rensselaer.

Mr. Comer was a very entertaining talker and would relate many interesting stories of early days here, not of his own experience but as he heard them told by his father and other old settlers. Listening to some of them and comparing old stories with those of the present day, one is impressed with the fact that rough, irresponsible disturbers of the peace live and exercise their cruel natures in every age when opportunity arises. He related one occasion when but for the influence of his father and five sons, the Village of Rensselaer would probably have been destroyed by fire and the home guard, as it was during the Civil war, been killed. The occasion was when an intemperate speech was made by a sympathizer with secession, resulting in the loyal men of the town putting him into prison. His friends determined to rescue him, kill the guard and burn the town but the plot was discovered by William Comer who hastened to inform his father and the five sons were sent out to warn the people. Two small armies gathered at Rensselaer and for a time things looked very serious but before any real damage was done, the prisoner was freed to never return and the malcontents were subdued by the authorities. Illustrative of the wild, rough element that had to be contended with in early days, Mr. Comer told of cruelties wrought on young people by horse thieves in the Kankakee River region. Those days have long since passed but the Comer and Bruce families, as pioneers, lived through deeply exciting times.

In conclusion excerpts from a local publication are here given in commemoration of the life work and death of Barney D. Comer.

"The funeral of Barney D. Comer was held Thursday afternoon at 2 o'clock at the Rose Bud church near his home. It was one of the largest funerals ever held in the county, and only a small part of those present were able to get into the church. Mr. Comer was a widely known man and his friends came not only from all over the county but from many other places to pay tribute to his active fruitful life. Almost a hundred automobiles and many horse-drawn vehicles gathered at the church and followed the cortege to Weston cemetery in Rensselaer where the burial took place. The service at the church was conducted by Revs. R. W. Conn and Forest Crider, the former from Hatfield and the latter from Mooresville. Both have performed spiritual labors in this county and were close friends of the deceased. The I. O. O. F., of which he had long been a member, performed its ritualistic service at the grave.

"Mr. Comer was the typical self-made man. Born at a time when the northern part of Jasper county was little better than a swamp, it seemed to offer little encouragement in the way of financial success. Yet, when a mere boy, Barney determined to overcome obstacles and to become a man of means and of influence in his



community. That he succeeded we all know. His parents were poor in worldly goods, but rich in the things that are worth while. Honest, industrious and God-fearing, they instilled in their son these qualities.

"He was a member of the Odd Fellows lodge of Rensselaer and a disciple of Friendship, Love and Truth as laid down in that order. A year before his marriage he was converted and joined the Rose Bud church and for many years had remained a loyal and active member. He was a great believer in Sunday school work and was always in his place. For many years he was chairman of the local Sunday school convention work.

"Activity was the keynote of his life. Whatever he did, he did with a purpose and an intensity that carried the work to completion and success. He was one of the men who do things. Whether as trustee of his township, advocate of good roads, teacher in the public schools, at the head of the anti-saloon movement, chairman of the Sunday school organization, he was a persistent and tireless worker.

"Although he spent most of his life within sight of his birthplace, he had the vision and broad mindedness of a man who has traveled much. He was interested in the affairs of his country, was an ardent newspaper reader and a lover of good books. He was public-spirited, broadminded, generous-hearted, a true friend, a loving husband and kind father. No worthy person ever appealed to Mr. Comer in vain. His name was on the list for every good movement and at the head of every subscription for help to those needing it. His strong personality was felt in every public gathering. In the future where men meet at public sales, political meetings, conventions and church gatherings this helpful man's presence will be greatly missed. His place will not soon be filled and his memory will not be forgotten.

"The last few weeks of his life he had been crippled by an accident and, although he had to go on crutches, he was out working hard for the proposed new stone road system through Union township. For the past two weeks his life had been filled with pain and suffering. His desire to get well was great, as he felt he had much to accomplish and many things that had been pushed aside in the stress of business, he felt he wanted time to do. However, he expressed himself many times as to his faith in Christ as his Saviour, and his readiness to go. Throughout his life he had a great reverence for the memory of his sainted mother. His friends have often heard him express his belief that he would see her as he passed to the Great Beyond. Less than an hour before he passed away he looked upward and said: 'Mother, Mother.' These were his last audible words.

"Thus has passed away one of Jasper county's good men and 'After life's fitful fever he sleeps well.'"



BENJAMIN NEWELL, who is now living at Brook, is one of the old and well known citizens of this section of Northwestern Indiana. In fact he was born in Tippecanoe County when that was still a frontier close to the verge of white settlement. His has been a long and useful career, spent chiefly as a farmer, but in his time he has influenced and benefitted the various communities in which he has lived in behalf of progress and the upbuilding and maintenance of institutions.

His birth occurred May 18, 1833, eighty-three years ago on Wea Plains in Tippecanoe County, Indiana. When he was three years of age his mother died. His parents were William and Maria (Steely) Newell, who were of Scotch descent, were married in Ohio and established their pioneer home in Tippecanoe County between 1830 and 1833.

It was in Tippecanoe County that Benjamin Newell spent his youth. He attended one of the old fashioned primitive schools and acquired only the fundamentals of a literary education. He also learned how to work hard, how to be honest and strictly upright in his relations with men, and those qualities have stood him well in the battle for existence.

On March 24, 1870, Mr. Newell was married in Shelby County, Indiana, to Nancy J. R. Webb, who was born in Flemingsburg, Kentucky, March 13, 1846, the eldest of the four children, three sons and a daughter of Samuel and Lovey Ann (Jones) Webb. The four children are all living, as follows: Mrs. Newell; William W., engaged in business in Greenfield, Hancock County, Indiana, who married Margaret Richardson, and they have one child; John S., a farmer of Roseland, Missouri, who is married and has six children; and Thomas L., of Lafayette, Indiana, and the father of two children. Samuel Webb was born in Pennsylvania on the 23d of November, 1810, and died in Perrysburg, Ohio, in 1854. He was a hatter by trade. In young manhood he left his native state for Kentucky, and in 1848 moved from there to Ohio, thence to Indiana, and later, returning to Ohio, he died in that state. Mrs. Webb was born in Kentucky March 17, 1824, and was reared, educated and married in that state. She died at the home of her daughter in Brook, Indiana, in about 1890. Both Mr. and Mrs. Webb were affiliated with the Methodist Church.

From early manhood until quite recently Benjamin Newell made farming his profession and business. For about six years he lived in Missouri and directed the operation of a farm, but then returned to Tippecanoe County and in 1880 he moved to Washington Township in Newton County. For thirty-four years he directed the operations of 1,400 acres of land in that township. In 1894 Mr. Newell moved to the Village of Brook and has since lived there, though still maintaining an interested eye over his farming interests. He has always favored improvements, and particularly such as roads and ditches. He also owns some town property in Brook.





*Mrs Benjamin Newell*







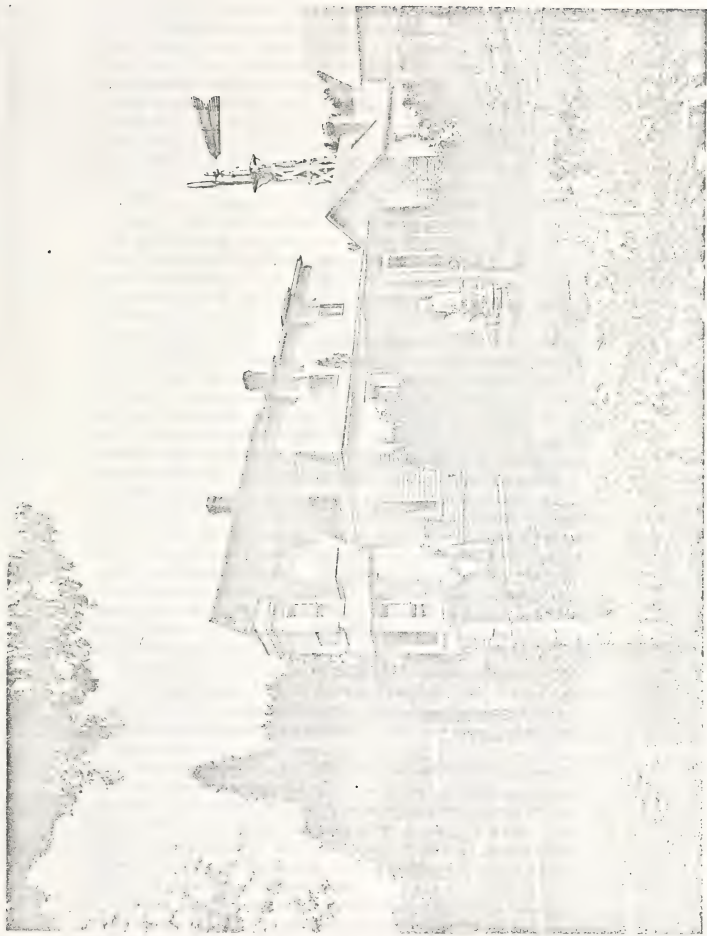
*Benjamin Newell*





MR. AND MRS. BENJAMIN NEWELL'S COTTAGE AT  
FOUNTAIN PARK





ROSE LAWN

Residence of Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin Newell.



Mr. Newell is affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows at Brook and in politics he is a republican. He served on the town board for one term, and for a number of years was road supervisor. He is a member of the board of trustees of the Christian Church, and his wife Mrs. Newell and Mrs. Frank Rich were chiefly responsible for the establishment of the Christian Church at Brook, having worked steadily for two years to effect that organization. Mrs. Newell is also a member of the Welfare Club of Brook. The pretty home of Mr. and Mrs. Newell is known as "Rose Lawn."

WILLIAM TOWNSEND. Well may this publication pay a tribute of honor to that sterling citizen whose name introduces this memoir and who left deep and benignant impress upon the community that long represented his home and in which his influence was ever given in support of those things that are good and true and that touch most closely the communal welfare. His death, on the 23d of May, 1915, was the direct result of a pitiable accident, for on the preceding Sunday, May 16th, while attempting to examine the roof of one of his store buildings in his home Town of Remington, he fell from a ladder and sustained such severe injuries about the head as to render him unconscious. He was borne to his home, where he lay in a semi-torpor, until his death, it having been impossible to revive him sufficiently to gain the actual details of the accident which he had encountered, as he was alone at the time. It has been deemed within the realm of probability that he suffered a stroke of apoplexy and that this was the cause of the accident which brought his death and a shock of loss and bereavement to his home community. His life was guided and governed by the loftiest principles, he was a man of thought and action, and his career was one of signal usefulness and honor. Kindliness and generosity were intrinsic elements of his being, and it may well be understood that such a man and such a citizen when called from the stage of his mortal endeavors must leave a distinct void in the community in which he has worthily lived and worthily wrought.

William Townsend was of distinguished American ancestry and his genealogy traces back to sterling forebears who came from England to this country in the earlier part of the sixteenth century, representatives becoming prominent in both the New Jersey and Maryland colonies. At Greencastle, the judicial center of Putnam County, Indiana, the late William Townsend was born on the 30th of September, 1854, and he was a son of William S. and Catharine L. (Peck) Townsend, who were honored pioneers of that county, where they established their home in 1829, upon their removal from Kentucky, the historic old Bluegrass State having given many splendid families to Indiana in the pioneer era of the history of the latter commonwealth.

William Selby Townsend, father of the subject of this memoir, was a son of James and Catherine Hodge (Davis) Townsend, and





James Townsend was a son of Major and Leah (Selby) Townsend. James Townsend was born near the historic old colonial City of Elizabethtown, New Jersey, on the 31st of August, 1786, and his wife was a close kinswoman of Jefferson Davis, who became the president of the Confederate States at the time of the Civil war. From his native state James Townsend removed to Snow Hill, Worcester County, Maryland, whence, about the year 1809, he removed with his family to Kentucky and became one of the pioneers of Union County where he hid out and became the virtual founder of the present thriving little city of Morganfield. He became a prominent and influential citizen of that section of the Blue-grass State and served in both the Lower House and Senate of the Kentucky Legislature. He was a man of substance, owning valuable property, including a number of slaves whom he gave their freedom many years prior to the Civil war. In 1829 this sturdy pioneer, great of mind and heart, came with his family to Indiana and established a home in the wilds of Putnam County, now one of the most opulent of that section of the Hoosier State. He platted the Town of Putnamville, on the National Road, and finally he removed to Clay County, where he passed the residue of his life and where his death occurred on the 3d of November, 1851, his widow surviving him by a score of years and being summoned to eternal rest on the 18th of April, 1871. Of their nine children William S., father of the subject of this memoir, was the third in order of birth, and he became one of the prominent and representative citizens and prosperous agriculturists of Putnam County. William S. Townsend served as county clerk for some time and was a resident of Greencastle at the time of his death, when he was in the prime of life. His widow survived him by many years and they became the parents of two sons and two daughters, three of whom succumbed to tuberculosis after attaining adult age, William of this review, having been the only one who reached years of full maturity, so that he was the last of the immediate family when deplorable accident brought to him untimely death. It is deemed but consistent to offer in this connection the more intimate and appreciative estimate of the character and services of William Townsend that is possible through recourse to quotation, with minor elimination and paraphrase, from the article that appeared in a Remington newspaper at the time of his death:

"In the year 1875 William Townsend, whose educational advantages had been of excellent order and who was reared to maturity in Putnam county, came up to the prairie country of Jasper county for the benefit of his health, and here he maintained his home until his death. His mother came soon after his arrival and made a home for him, and after his marriage, in 1880, to Elhora Garrison, she resided with them until her death. Mr. Townsend's filial solicitude and unfailing devotion to his venerable mother marked him as a man of great heart and loving appreciation.



"Mr. Townsend has been engaged in the drug business for many years and has lived a very active and useful life. He has given freely of his time and talents to civic affairs, serving as a member of the school board and also of the town council. At the time of his death he was clerk of the village council, a position which he had held more than fifteen years, and he had held also a number of other positions of public trust. Mr. Townsend was affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and its adjunct organization, the Daughters of Rebekah. In politics he was a republican, in religion a Presbyterian, a church with which he united April 5, 1886, as a member of a class of thirty-three members. In the local church he served as trustee, deacon, choir leader and teacher in the Sunday school, his efficiency as musical director in the church having been pronounced.

"In the death of Mr. Townsend the community loses not only one of its most prominent business men but also a model citizen and a good man. He was a friend to all,—young and old. The school children, with whom he had much association, attest to his kindly qualities by their friendship and regard for him. What more could be said as to a man's qualities than that he was a friend of the children? But Mr. Townsend's finer characteristics were exhibited in his relation to his home and family. He was most tender and affectionate in his attitude as a husband, self-sacrificing as a father, and kind and generous to those close to him in the kinship of the family. His taking away was a shock to the community and will be a deep and abiding sorrow for the family, whose members may find a measure of consolation and compensation in the thought that their loss is also that of the community, and that with them the community mourns."

The remains of this honored citizen rest in the beautiful cemetery at Remington, and as enduring as any material monument is his place in the affectionate memory of those who came within the sphere of his kindly and noble influence. Mr. Townsend is survived by his wife and their two sons, Claude B. and Lowell, concerning whom more specific mention is made in following paragraphs.

Claude B., who succeeded to the management of the drug business upon the death of his honored father, was born at Remington on the 15th of April, 1881, and as a loyal citizen and progressive young business man he is well upholding the prestige of the name which he bears. He acquired his early education in the public schools of his native place and later completed a pharmaceutical course in Purdue University. He is a republican in his political proclivities and is affiliated with the Masonic fraternity Lodge No. 351; also with the Chapter at Goodland and the Council at Monticello and with the Modern Woodmen of America. On the 5th of November 1902, Mr. Townsend wedded Miss Blanche Eck, and they have two daughters,—Elnora and Catherine.



Lowell Townsend, younger son of the subject of this memoir, is a young man of distinctive musical talent, in the cultivation of which he received the best of advantages. For three years he was an instructor in music in the University of Illinois, and he now holds a similar position at the University of Wisconsin.

JOHN J. PORTER. There are few residents of Remington, Jasper County, who have a more practical acquaintance with historic points in what was once called the far West, than has John J. Porter, whose travels have extended also into the far South and incidentally thrice across the Atlantic ocean. Mr. Porter, a large landowner in both Jordan and Carpenter Townships, now lives retired, a man of public influence, at Remington.

John J. Porter was born in Northamptonshire, England, November 28, 1836, a son of Samuel and Martha (Hurst) Porter. The parents spent their entire lives in England. The father was a saddler and harness-maker by trade, an honest workman and a worthy man. They had relatives living at that time in Lorain County, Ohio, and when John J. Porter's future was considered it was thought advisable that he should join these relatives in America and on his maternal uncle's farm learn the principles of agriculture. He was only eleven years old when he started for the United States, a passenger on the sailing ship, *The Queen of the West*. This vessel brought him safely across the ocean although it took five weeks and one day to make the voyage.

Mr. Porter spent nine years on his uncle's farm in Ohio and then decided to start out for himself, in 1856 going to DeKalb County, Illinois, where he labored as a farm hand for \$17 a month for a Mr. Jewett, who afterward became his father-in-law. In the meanwhile homesickness overcame him and in 1857 he went back to his native land but, after a short visit was satisfied and once more became a resident of the United States. At this time he located in La Salle County, Illinois, and in 1858 was married, and in 1859 made his first trip to Pike's Peak, in the Rocky Mountains of Colorado, gold having been discovered there in the previous year. He returned home in the fall but in the spring of 1860 went back to the mountains and in all made seven trips across the plains. He met with thrilling experiences while operating in the Colorado mountains and at Walla Walla, Washington. Mr. Porter spent two seasons in New Mexico and his last trip home from the West was made by the way of the Nicaragua route, and after getting to the east side of the isthmus he took passage on the well known steamer, the *Golden Rule*, which was then one of the largest vessels afloat.

In the fall of 1864 Mr. Porter returned to the East permanently and located at Mendota, Illinois, where he engaged for a time in buying stock. In 1869 he came to Jasper County and rented farming land until 1874, when he purchased and located on section 2 in



Carpenter Township. He now owns 293.65 acres of valuable land in the county, which lie in both Carpenter and Jordan townships. This land he cultivated under his own supervision until 1889, when he moved to Remington.

Mr. Porter was married in 1858 to Miss Sarah Ann Jewett, who died August 14, 1902, having been the beloved mother of three children: Ollie S., Burdett and Thomas A.

For fifty years Mr. Porter has been an Odd Fellow and he is likewise well known in other organizations, being a Mason and a Knight of Pythias and belonging to the Rebekahs and the Eastern Star. He has always been a republican in political sentiment. Time has touched Mr. Porter lightly.

THOMAS HOLLINGSWORTH. Like most towns which are enjoying a steady and healthy growth that of Rensselaer, Jasper County, Indiana, owes its prosperity to the progressive and energetic character of its leading citizens. Those who have assisted materially in its development are Emmet Louis Hollingsworth and George K. Hollingsworth, sons of Thomas Hollingsworth, who for some years was a prominent merchant here. Thomas Hollingsworth was born in Columbiana County, Ohio, near the town of New Lisbon, in 1836 a son of Samuel and Sarah Leach Hollingsworth. He was reared to manhood in his native county and served an apprenticeship to the cabinetmaker's trade. Having received a practical education and taken the necessary examination, he taught school during the winter terms for some years. In 1861 he married Elizabeth, a daughter of George Kannal, and in 1865 came to Jasper County, Indiana, locating in Rensselaer, where he embarked in general merchandise pursuits with Joseph Willey. He was thus continuously engaged until 1871, when, for reason of failing health, he retired from the active business cares of life. He died January 25, 1872. Thomas Hollingsworth was born and reared in the Quaker faith, in which he was a leader while residing in Ohio. He was old-fashioned in his ways, dressed in black clerical garb, and used the "thee's" and "thou's" peculiar to the Quakers until his marriage, which was outside of the denomination. Subsequently he embraced the religious faith of his wife, uniting with the Church of God in Rensselaer, in which he became a ruling elder. He took no active part in politics but was interested in all matters pertaining to the public weal, particularly that of schools and churches. He was noted for his methodical habits, close attention to business, and for his unostentatious charity. Few men ever lived in this community who were more universally respected than was he. His wife did not long survive him, dying in October, 1873. She bore her part in the struggle of her husband for a living, cheerfully bearing her burden in life, with its joys and sorrows, and was particularly noted for her devotion to church and missionary work. They were the parents of two children, Emmet Louis and George





Kannal. The latter, born in Rensselaer, September 26, 1868, is now a resident of Chicago.

EMMET LOUIS HOLLINGSWORTH, was born in Columbiana County, Ohio, January 22, 1864, and was thus less than two years old when he was brought to Rensselaer, which place has since been his home. In 1880 he was graduated in the first class from the Rensselaer High School, and for two years thereafter was a student in the literary course of the University of Michigan. Returning to Rensselaer in the fall of 1882, he at once became clerk in the old banking establishment of A. McCoy and T. Thompson, and was thus continuously employed until 1893. In that year he became one of the organizers of the Commercial State Bank, which later became the present First National Bank. Besides being the cashier of the Commercial State Bank during its entire life, he held the same position in the First National from its organization until he was elected its president, January 1, 1912. On March 1, 1913, he resigned and has since devoted his attention to real estate and private interests. He was instrumental in the organization of what is now the Trust and Savings Bank of Rensselaer, and is a large stockholder in the same. Mr. Hollingsworth is a thirty-second degree Scottish Rite Mason, Adoniram Temple, Indianapolis, belonging also to the subordinate lodge of Odd Fellows 143, The Knights of Pythias, No. 82, and the Modern Woodmen, Camp 4412. In politics he is a republican.

He was married December 31, 1887, to Miss Fannie May Allen, daughter of Oscar M. and Hannah Allen of Kalamazoo, Michigan. To this union five children have been born, namely: Cecilia G., now Mrs. Horace Barker Chadbourne of Harmony, Maine; Lois Dorothea, now Mrs. Ralph T. Upjohn, of Kalamazoo, Michigan; Gerald E., Emmet L., Jr., all living and Ruth Irene, who died in infancy. Mr. and Mrs. Hollingsworth are members of the Presbyterian Church. Mr. Hollingsworth has been a ruling elder for twenty years.

GEORGE KANNAL HOLLINGSWORTH is the younger son of the late Thomas Hollingsworth, one of the pioneer business men of Jasper County, and though a resident of Chicago is still keenly interested in Jasper County affairs and is well known here.

He was born at Rensselaer, Indiana, September 26, 1868, grew up in that town, attended the public schools, and like his older brother Emmet L., whose sketch is given above, has been chiefly engaged in real estate and banking. He is now in the real estate business at Chicago.

He was vice president of the Commercial State Bank of Rensselaer, and during his residence in his home city served as a member of the city council and on the school board. Mr. Hollingsworth is a republican, a member of the Masonic fraternity and the Wood-



men of the World, belongs to the City Club of Chicago and the Art Institute in that city, and is a member of the Presbyterian Church.

On September 26, 1889, at Rensselaer he married Nora A. Hopkins, a daughter of Ludd Hopkins, who was one of the pioneer merchants of Rensselaer. Mr. and Mrs. Hollingsworth have two children: Donald H. and Thomas. The son Donald married Dorothy Fox on April 18, 1915.

GEORGE H. HEALEY. Rensselaer people feel a sense of comfortable security in such citizenship as has been exhibited by Major George H. Healey, editor and one of the proprietors of the Rensselaer Republican. Some refer to him as a "live wire" in the community. He has in fact, with a due amount of conservatism, made his influence count for good in Jasper County in more ways than one.

He is a member of the firm of Healey & Clark, the second member of which is Leslie Clark, publishers of the Republican at Rensselaer, the strongest and most influential paper in Jasper and Newton counties. It is a daily paper published every evening and there is also a semi-weekly edition.

Major Healey, while a comparatively young man, is an old time printer, since he learned that trade when he was a boy. He was born at Rensselaer November 14, 1872. His parents were Joshua and Julia (Howland) Healey. Joshua Healey, a native of Canada, came to Indiana at the age of nineteen, and for three or four years taught school. At the very outbreak of the Civil war he joined a company made up at Rensselaer, and went to the front as a member of Company G, Ninth Indiana Volunteer Infantry. He was made captain of this company at the end of three months, and later promoted to major of the One hundred and Twenty-eighth Regiment and finally to colonel of the One Hundred and Fifty-first Indiana Regiment. He was one of the Union soldiers of whom Jasper County was especially proud. He died at Goodland, Indiana, January 2, 1880, from diabetes, a disease he had contracted in the army. While home on a leave of absence from the army he married Julia Ann Howland, who was born near Peru, Miami County, Indiana, and was a school teacher before her marriage. She died at the home of her son, George, in Rensselaer May 14, 1913.

After finishing his school work in the Rensselaer High School George H. Healey gained his first acquaintance with the printer's trade at the age of sixteen in the News office at Remington, Indiana. His was the usual experience of the journeyman printer, and he worked at different times in Cumberland Gap, Tennessee; California, Missouri; Sedalia, Missouri, and shifted from the case as a compositor to the circulation, reportorial and advertising depart-



ments. He has had extensive experience as a publisher, and for several years published papers at Brookston and Chalmers. For four years he was employed as a printer in the government printing office at Washington, the greatest institution of its kind in the world. Since January 1, 1906, Mr. Healey has been one of the publishers and since October 1, 1907, has been the editor of the Republican at Rensselaer.

Newspaper work by no mean circumscribes all his interest. He is now a major in the Indiana National Guard, having command of Companies M, C, I and L of the Third Infantry. These companies are located respectively at Rensselaer, Monticello, Plymouth and Valparaiso. His son, George W., is quartermaster in this battalion.

Both as a private citizen and as a newspaper man he has naturally been identified with politics. He describes himself as "a republican with a balance wheel." He believes in correcting party faults from within and not trying to wreck the party in order to create reform. In line with this principle he kept his newspaper straight down the middle of the road during the troublesome days of 1912. He has been in politics for the good of the cause and has neither sought nor held any official position. But his home community gives him much credit for public spirited work, particularly as a temperance advocate. He is not only opposed to the liquor business in any form, but is a thorough exemplar of the best principles of temperance, having never tasted liquor nor tobacco in any form. He took an active part in driving the saloons out of Rensselaer, and he is not alone in his opinion that the city is a hundred per cent better than when these institutions were running about nine years ago.

Mr. Healey and all his family are members of the Christian Church and fraternally he is affiliated with the Knights of Pythias, the Modern Woodmen of America and the Sons of Veterans.

His home life has been ideally happy, and it is only natural that he takes much pride in his children, all of whom show great promise for the future. At Tipton, Missouri, June 14, 1893, he was united in marriage with Stella Naomi Hough, daughter of Rev. and Mrs. Milton T. Hough. To their union were born six children, and all are living except the first born. George W., the oldest son, now twenty years of age, graduated from the Rensselaer High School, spent one year in the University of Illinois, and another year in the University of Indiana. Vera, the second daughter, is a member of the class of 1916 in the Rensselaer High School. Ivah, aged fifteen, is a freshman in the high school, while Adna Julian, aged ten, is in the grade schools, and the youngest is Homer Max, now one year old.

LESLIE CLARK is one of the editors and publishers of the Rensselaer Republican, and as such reference to his career properly belongs in the history of Jasper and Newton counties.



He was born August 22, 1867, a son of Ezra L. and Myrtie Z. Clark. With a high school education he began learning the printer's trade at the age of sixteen in the office in which he later became one of the owners. After working in various offices in Chicago in 1891 he entered the newspaper business for himself, taking charge as manager and local editor of the People's Pilot in Rensselaer. In 1893 he purchased the Times at Redkey, Indiana, which at that time was one of the booming natural gas towns of the state. Disposing of the Times in 1895, he bought the Fort Recovery, Ohio, Journal, which he conducted until 1897.

Then returning to Rensselaer, he bought the People's Pilot, changing the name to Rensselaer Journal, and making it a republican paper. In 1908 the Journal and Republican were consolidated, the ownership later passing into the control of George H. Healey and Mr. Clark, under the firm name of Healey & Clark.

Fraternally Mr. Clark is a member of the Knights of Pythias. On September 12, 1891, he married Almira D. Shriver, a daughter of Joshua and Maria Shriver. Their children are Harold L., Howard B. and Ada Ruth, the sons being associated with their father in the publication of the Republican.

WALTER L. GUMM. While Mr. Gumm is one of the representative merchants in the Village of Remington, Jasper County, where he has maintained his residence since 1878, he has achieved in the attractive domain of floriculture a reputation that transcends even the limitations of the United States, his specialty being the growing of peonies, in which field his experiments and scientific investigations have enabled him to produce many new varieties of splendid order, many hybrids of unequalled beauty. As a merchant he owns and conducts one of the leading hardware establishments of Remington, and as a citizen he is known for his broad mental ken, scientific attainments, sterling character and civic loyalty and public spirit.

Mr. Gumm was born at Marseilles, LaSalle County, Illinois, on the 17th day of July, 1857, and is a son of St. Clair and Julia E. (Reniff) Gumm, the former a native of Virginia and the latter of Massachusetts, so that in their marriage were united the cavalier strain of the Old Dominion and the Pilgrim blood of New England. St. Clair Gumm was a lad of ten years when his parents removed to Illinois and, in 1836, numbered themselves among the pioneers of LaSalle County, where they passed the residue of their lives and where he himself was reared and educated, his boyhood and youth having been compassed by the conditions and influences of the pioneer life. He eventually became one of the prominent and influential citizens of Marseilles, LaSalle County and had much to do with the civic and material upbuilding of that fine little city. He conducted a large and important business as a dealer in real estate and his enterprise in the platting of a number of additions to the





city gave him foremost place as one of its most public-spirited and progressive men of affairs. Honored by the entire community in which he had passed virtually his entire life, he continued his residence at Marseilles until his death, which occurred in the year 1893 and at which time he was about sixty-seven years of age. His widow attained to venerable age and passed the gracious twilight of her life in the City of Joliet, Illinois, where she was summoned to eternal rest in August, 1914. Of the family of three sons and three daughters two sons and one daughter are living.

Walter L. Gumm acquired his early education in the public schools of Marseilles, his native place, and there also he pursued a course of higher academic study in the Mary A. Pickett Seminary, in which he and the other children of the family held free-tuition scholarships, by reason of the fact that their father had, with characteristic liberality, donated five acres of ground on which the seminary buildings had been erected.

In 1874, when about seventeen years of age, Mr. Gumm went to Forrest, Livingston County, Illinois, where he entered upon a practical apprenticeship to the tinner's trade, in the meanwhile having also the privilege of gaining detailed knowledge of the retail hardware business. He became a skilled artisan at his trade in due course of time and during the long intervening years he has been actively identified with the hardware business.

In April, 1878, about three months prior to attaining to his legal majority, Mr. Gumm came to Jasper County, Indiana, and established his residence at Remington, where he has continued to reside during the long intervening period of nearly forty years, within which he has so applied his energies and ability as to achieve distinctive success and to become one of the representative men of this section of the county.

Upon his arrival in Remington Mr. Gumm assumed a position in the hardware store of J. E. Hollett, with whom he continued to be most pleasingly associated until 1892, when he purchased the store and business of Mr. Hollett and assumed sole control of the enterprise that has been signally prospered under his progressive and well ordered management. His establishment is well equipped in all departments and the substantial and representative patronage accorded to him gives patent evidence of the confidence and esteem in which he is held in the community.

Mr. Gumm may be considered distinctly favored in that his tastes and inclinations have led him into another field of enterprise and aesthetic exploitation through which he has found unqualified pleasure and satisfaction as well as financial profit. He believes that he inherited from his mother his fondness for plants and flowers, and his initial efforts in floriculture were conducted on a modest scale and with the sole idea of personal recreation and pleasure. He began growing flowers on the grounds of his home, and his success led him into constantly expanding activities in this



ideal field of enterprise, with the result that he has become one of the best known and most successful representatives of floriculture in this section of Indiana, while as a specialist in the raising and developing of new types of peonies he has gained a reputation that places him in the very front ranks. At the time of this writing, in the autumn of 1915, Mr. Gumm displays at his fine modern home and grounds 500 different varieties of peonies, with plants of the same to the prodigious number of 60,000. He ships peonies and other choice cut flowers to Chicago and other cities, far and near, and for his peony roots has been developed a demand throughout the civilized world. In 1915 he received orders from the interior of western China, near the line of Thibet, and the transfer of the shipment from his headquarters to its destination required four months. Each successive season finds him shipping the fine floral products from Remington to the most diverse sections of the United States, as well as to foreign countries, and it is to be doubted whether any other man in Jasper County has developed a commercial enterprise of so far-reaching proportions. A visit to his beautifully kept propagating grounds is a revelation, especially when recognition is taken of the fact that aside from all this Mr. Gumm is an active and successful merchant who abates not his careful and able supervision of his hardware business.

He is known for his progressiveness and liberality and is ever ready to lend his influence and tangible co-operation in the furtherance of measures and enterprises tending to advance and solidify the civic and material prosperity of his home town and county. For a time he was a valuable contributor to leading periodical and standard works pertaining to scientific floriculture, but such literary digression made little appeal to him and he finally curtailed his services in this direction. In politics Mr. Gumm is found aligned as a stalwart in the ranks of the republican party, and in the time-honored Masonic fraternity he has completed the circle of both the York and Scottish Rites, with affiliation of maximum order in the former as a member of St. John's Commandery of Knights Templar at Logansport the while he has received the thirty-second degree of the Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite in the consistory in the city of Indianapolis, where also he is affiliated with the adjunct Masonic organization, the Ancient Arabic Order of the Nobles of the Mystic Shrine. He is identified likewise with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Modern Woodmen of America. Both he and his wife are zealous and valued members of the Methodist Episcopal Church at Remington and they have long been prominent and influential figures in the representative social life of the community.

On the 14th of December, 1881, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Gumm to Miss Rose J. Hart, daughter of Esau Hart, who was for many years a prominent citizen of Remington. Mr. and Mrs.



Gumm have one daughter, Lillian Irma, who remains at the parental home.

HENRY WARD MARBLE. Since the time of its organization, the policy of the Bank of Wheatfield has been directed by men bearing the name of Marble, its founder, the late Horace Marble, and his son, its present chief executive officer, Henry Ward Marble. Under their management the institution has enjoyed a steady growth in patronage and a reputation as a sound, conservative banking concern.

The late Horace Marble was born June 10, 1839, in Bennington County, Vermont, and was nine years of age when brought by his parents to Lake County, Indiana. He grew to manhood on the home farm, and in the year 1861 enlisted in Company E, Ninth Regiment, Indiana Volunteer Infantry, with which he served gallantly until the close of the Civil war, receiving his honorable discharge in 1865 at which time he bore the rank of captain by brevet. In 1866 he was united in marriage with Miss Mary E. Booth, who died at Hobart, Indiana, in 1872, leaving two daughters: Mrs. Kate Ott, of Crown Point, Indiana; and Mrs. Bernice Clark, of Wheatfield. In 1873 Captain Marble was married to Miss Martha Skinner, who still survives him, and they became the parents of two children: Henry Ward; and Mrs. Ruth Salisbury, of Crown Point.

In 1880 Horace Marble was elected sheriff of Lake County and served capably in that office for two terms, or until 1885, when he was elected county auditor, a post which he retained until 1893. During the period of his official service he made extensive purchases of land in Wheatfield Township, Jasper County, and from that time until his death, which occurred June 15, 1910, at the family home north of the Town of Wheatfield, devoted much of his attention to his landed interests and to the management of the Bank of Wheatfield, the presidency of which he retained until the time of his death. In Mr. Marble's death the community lost one of its most highly respected and best known citizens. He was a man of intellectual gifts, with excellent business judgment and foresight, and of the strictest integrity. During his connection with the Bank of Wheatfield his personality was largely responsible for the great increase in the business of the concern, while his genial, courteous manner drew all to him. He was prominent in Masonry, belonging to Wheatfield Lodge No. 642, Free and Accepted Masons, and had attained to the Knight Templar degree, and prominent Masons from all over the state were present at the funeral, as were leading men from all walks of life. Interment, under the auspices of the order, was made at Wheatfield Cemetery.

Henry Ward Marble was born April 24, 1878, at Hobart, Indiana, and received his education in the public schools of Crown Point, and Northwestern University, at Evanston, Illinois, which institution he attended for one year. He accompanied the family





HORACE MARBLE





to Wheatfield in 1896, and has here resided to the present time. At the time of his father's death he succeeded to the presidency of the Bank of Wheatfield, which has continued to grow and prosper under his management. A republican in politics, Mr. Marble has taken an interest in political and public affairs, and in 1914 was elected a member of the board of county commissioners of Jasper County, which position he retains. He is a member of the Knights of Pythias, at Wheatfield, Indiana, and a thirty-second degree Scottish Rite Mason at Indianapolis.

**GREENIP I. THOMAS.** The eldest in a family of four children, of whom three are living, Mr. Thomas was born in White County, Indiana, on the 17th of August, 1862, and both his paternal and maternal ancestors were numbered among the sterling pioneers of the Hoosier State. The career of Mr. Thomas has been one marked by determined effort and he has been in the most significant sense the architect of his own fortune, as he became dependent upon his own resources where a mere lad, owing to the death of his father. He has encountered adverse conditions and met with serious reverses, but against each of these experiences he has brought to bear undaunted courage and determination, has profited through the lessons of adversity as well as through those of success, and in all the relations of life has remained true and steadfast, so that his reward, in the unqualified respect and good will of his fellow men, has not been denied to him and is looked upon by him as a due compensation. He has maintained his residence in the village of Remington since 1905 and is here engaged in the general hardware business, as one of the representative merchants and loyal and progressive citizens of this fine little city of Jasper County.

Mr. Thomas is a son of John William and Judethia A. (Alkire) Thomas, whose marriage was solemnized in White County, this state, where the respective families settled in the early pioneer days, when the locality was little more than a wilderness. John W. represented White County as one of Indiana's valiant soldiers in the Civil war, at the inception of which historic conflict he enlisted in Company K, Fifth Indiana Cavalry, with which gallant command he participated in many engagements, including a number of important battles, and proved himself a loyal and efficient soldier of the Union, his record in this connection having been such as to reflect enduring honor on his name and memory.

After the close of the war John W. removed with his family to Kansas, where he became a pioneer farmer, but losses through drought and grasshopper scourges made the venture altogether precarious, besides which the locality in which he lived was at times menaced by hostile or depredating Indians, so that he consulted expediency by returning with his family to White County, Indiana, where he resumed agricultural operations and where he died about the year 1872, his life having undoubtedly been shortened



by the hardships he had endured while serving in the Civil war, his physical powers having been much impaired after the close of his military career. His widow later became the wife of John Toothman, of Idaville, White County, and she passed the closing years of her life at Remington, Jasper County, where she died on the 20th of June, 1912, her first husband having likewise preceded her to eternal rest.

Greenip I. Thomas remained with his mother on the old homestead farm near Idaville, White County, during the period of his infancy, his father having at the time been absent at the front in defense of the integrity of the nation. After the war, and while he was a child of about four years, the family removed to Kansas, as previously noted, but within a few years was made the return journey to White County, Indiana, where he remained on the farm and attended the district schools until the death of his father, at which time he was a lad of about ten years. He soon afterward began to depend upon his own exertions in providing his livelihood, and he initiated his labors in the employ of a farmer, who paid him five dollars a month for his services. Later he worked for a time for a compensation of only board and clothing. He turned his youthful attention to whatever occupation would give him an honest living, and among his early experiences was that of filling grain sacks and carrying corn cobs in the grain elevator at Reynolds, White County, at the dignified salary of twenty-five cents a day. Thereafter he continued at farm work, in connection with which he was employed for six years by J. N. Zea, residing two miles east of Remington, Jasper County. He received \$12.50 a month for the first six months and thereafter his salary was \$16.75 a month. He was frugal and careful, placing true valuation upon the fruits of his arduous toil and endeavor, and at the expiration of the six years he found himself possessed of \$1,200,—representing his savings and the interest accumulated on the same. At this juncture in his career he wedded Miss Sarah E. Owens, whose parents came from Cass County to Jasper County, and for the ensuing four years he conducted independent operations as a farmer. Through misrepresentations made to him in purchasing his hotel in Saybrook, Illinois, and through his lack of experience in affairs of business, he lost his property and was compelled again to make a new start. He was able to resume his farming operations in Jasper County, and at the expiration of four years he engaged in the meat-market business at Rensselaer, the judicial center of Jasper County, but the incidental credits which he extended to patrons and from which he realized virtually no ultimate returns, the enterprise eventually resulted in a disastrous way, with attendant loss to him of his investment and previous monetary accumulations. A depressing situation, but Mr. Thomas was yet a young man and was not of the nature to be daunted even by repeated attacks of adversity. Under these conditions he found employment as superintendent of the



farm of J. M. Keene, fifteen miles north of Rensselaer, and he continued his services in this capacity after Warren Springer became owner of the property. Finally he rented the farm from Mr. Springer, and through his energy and good judgment in his operations in the raising of hay and cattle he again placed himself finally upon a basis that made possible his eventual gaining of financial independence once more.

Upon leaving the Springer farm Mr. Thomas purchased 206 acres of land, in Union and Barkley Townships, Jasper County, and he here conducted successful operations as a farmer and stock-grower, besides making various substantial improvements upon the property. He remained on this homestead about five years and then removed to the little village of Fair Oaks, likewise in Jasper County, this action having been taken principally for the purpose of giving his one child better educational advantages. The same motive led to his removal to Remington in 1905, his residence at Fair Oaks having covered a period of about three years, during which he gave his attention to handling of real estate. Upon removal to Remington, Mr. Thomas engaged in the farm implement business, and he still retains a financial interest in the business, but since 1912 his personal supervision has been given to his hardware business, which has become one of substantial and profitable order and with which he has been identified since the year noted. He is a straightforward, reliable and enterprising business man, and as a citizen gives his influence and co-operation in the furtherance of measures and undertakings advanced for the general good of the community. His political allegiance is given to the republican party, he is affiliated with the Masonic fraternity at Remington, Indiana, No. 351 and the Knights of Pythias Castle Hall No. 58 and both he and his wife are zealous members of the Christian Church.

On the 26th of October, 1883, within a few months after attaining to his legal majority, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Thomas to Miss Sarah E. Owens, who was born in Cass County, this state, as previously intimated in this article. Their only child, Opal M., was born May 11, 1889, became the wife of Louie E. Dowell, and the supreme loss and bereavement in the devoted marital life of Mr. Thomas and his wife came when their daughter was summoned to the life eternal in the flower of her young womanhood, her death having occurred on the 28th of November, 1914. In their home they are rearing with true parental solicitude the son of Mr. Thomas' brother, and the name of this foster son is James Orville Thomas.

**AUGUST BERNHARDT.** It is difficult for those who know August Bernhardt as the proprietor of a handsome and valuable country estate of 257 acres near Remington to realize that when he arrived in this section of Indiana less than twenty years ago he was possessed



of but little capital save a generous share of ambition and determination, and had to overcome many difficulties in the way of advancement. Many years of consecutive industry have brought him well merited success and his career is a demonstration of the fact that honest labor is the best foundation upon which to build a structure of prosperity.

He was about twenty-one years of age when he came from his native land of Germany to the New World with its opportunities. He was born in Wuerttemberg, Germany, August 18, 1863, a son of Joseph and Agatha Bernhardt. While a German boy he acquired the substantial education given to the children of that country, and had also trained himself so as to be able to utilize opportunity when it came to him. In 1884 he immigrated to America, and for thirteen years lived in Livingston County, Illinois. From there he moved to the vicinity of Mount Ayr in Newton County, and four years later, in 1901, came to Carpenter Township in Jasper County, where his name now stands for solid industry and success. He has applied himself to the general work of farming and stock raising, and in both lines has met with success. He is a public spirited citizen and his abilities have been recognized by his fellow citizens who have elected him to the office of membership on the township advisory board, where he has served since January, 1915, and he is also superintendent of the Lewis Alter road. In politics he is a republican.

In 1890 Mr. Bernhardt married Miss Maggie Conrad, who was born in Illinois, a daughter of Peter and Maggie Conrad, both of whom were natives of Friesland, Germany, and who on coming to America settled in Peoria, Illinois. Mr. and Mrs. Bernhardt became the parents of four children, one of whom died in infancy. Mary Elizabeth is now the wife of Paul Weiss and lives in Carpenter Township. George William and Harry A. are farming at home with their parents. Mr. Bernhardt and his wife are held in high esteem in Jasper County.

FRANK C. RICH. With a business experience covering many years of successful effort, Frank C. Rich came to the office of county treasurer of Newton County, a man well fitted for any emergency. To him the financial field was already familiar, its opportunities known and its dangers well charted. The same open-eyed, conservative methods that had brought him business success in his private enterprises, were adopted as safe and sure, when he assumed the duties of county treasurer. That he still enjoys the same confidence and esteem from his fellow citizens is apparent in the fact that he has twice been re-elected, serving now in his second term. When it is realized that the county treasurer receives and disburses all the revenues and other public moneys belonging to the county, the grave responsibilities attaching to this office may be understood.







Mrs Sarah E. Stembel Geo. O. Stembel



Frank C. Rich was born in Clinton County, Indiana, January 20, 1864, and is a son of William L. and Sarah J. (Catterlin) Rich, natives of Indiana. The father followed farming until he retired, in 1870, removing with his family, to Jasper County, where, with the exception of four years, he has lived ever since, the present home being at Remington. There were eight children in the family and four survive.

Reared and educated in Jasper County, Frank C. Rich remained with his father until 1887. In 1897 he went to Brook, Indiana, where he embarked in a hardware business and remained for seven years and then moved to Goodland and entered into the grain business, which he profitably conducted until he assumed the duties pertaining to the position of treasurer of Newton County, to which he had been elected in 1912, and, as mentioned above, subsequently re-elected. During his residence at Brook and later at Goodland, he proved enterprising and public spirited and at both places served on the school board. He has long been an important factor in democratic circles but has seldom sought political promotion.

On October 19, 1887, Mr. Rich was united in marriage with Miss Eva L. Brown, who was a daughter of one of the old families of the county, and they had four sons: Lowell G., Roy F., William W. and one who died at the age of six months. Mrs. Rich passed away January 23, 1912. She was a devout member of the Christian Church, to which Mr. Rich also belongs. In fraternal life he is a Royal Arch Mason at Goodland, Indiana.

ALBERT FREDERICK STEMBEL. This is the name of one of the young and progressive merchants and business men at Wheatfield, and while he is now at the outset of a career of great promise, judged by his previous performance, he comes of one of the most substantial families long identified with the states of Ohio and Indiana.

Born August 25, 1889, Albert Frederick Stembel is a native of Jasper County, grew up here, and had the example of a successful father to stimulate him to a business career. He is a son of George Orren and Sarah T. (Tilton) Stembel. His father was a son of Joseph and Mary (Zigler) Stembel, both of whom were of German stock, and among the early settlers of Ohio. Joseph Stembel followed farming all his life in Champaign County, Ohio, was a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church and quite an active democrat. The eight children of Joseph and Mary Stembel were: Melissa and George O., both deceased; John V.; Mary; Ella; Albert F.; William H. and Addie E., all of whom are still living and married.

George Orren Stembel when twenty-four years of age started out in life for himself and gained a substantial success from his own resources. He was born in Champaign County, Ohio, October 20, 1854, and died in Jasper County, August 7, 1914. His death



marked the passing of one of the foremost business men of this county, and he was widely esteemed wherever known. His wife, Sarah E. Tilton, was one of the eight children of John H. and Samantha (Swisher) Tilton. The eight Tilton children, all of whom are living and married, are Alfred J., George W., Sarah E., John W., Julia Etta, Corenna F., Bert W. and Bessie T. Their father, John H. Tilton, enlisted in the Forty-sixth Indiana Volunteer Infantry during the Civil war, subsequently was in the Twenty-ninth Indiana Infantry, and made a gallant record as a soldier, a record which will always be cherished by his descendants. To the marriage of George O. and Sarah E. Stembel were born seven children: Albert F., Oscar J., Grover C., Mary S., Harry I., Gilbert H. and Clarence O. Their father, George O. Stembel had many marked characteristics outside of business ability. He had a fine mind, could think as well as act, and his actions were also guided by the strictest of integrity. He was affiliated with the Masonic Order, the Knights of Pythias and the Modern Woodmen of America, and kept a high place in the democratic party. For eighteen years he served as a member of the school board in Jasper County.

In the fall of 1884 George A. Stembel came to Wheatfield, Jasper County. He was first manager of the W. E. Sweney lumber and hay business. In 1903 he formed a partnership with E. T. Biggs in the lumber, grain, hay and farm implement business, and in August, 1904, became sole proprietor. He conducted one of the largest establishments of its kind in Jasper County and made a great success of it. That was his work until his death about ten years later. He was always a supporter of public enterprises, and in his time did as much as any individual to promote progress in Jasper County.

Albert F. Stembel, after practically exhausting the resources of the local high school, started in to learn business under the direction of his father. He was at that time eighteen years of age, so that his business career covers a period of eight years. On his father's death he succeeded him as active manager of the implement and grain business and has continued it at the same high standard maintained by his honored father. Mr. Stembel married Miss Luella McCay on December 30, 1914. He is an active democrat and is now a member of the Wheatfield Town Board and holds the office of city treasurer.

**SAMUEL R. SIZELOVE.** Concise, clear and accurate must be the work of an auditor and in every case where his professional services are required, exists large responsibility. Undoubtedly accounting experience is helpful, if not essential, and bookkeeping is the first step in this direction. Hence, as an experienced bookkeeper, Samuel R. Sizelove was a man well qualified for the position of auditor of Newton County as a majority of his fellow citizens declared, electing him to this office in the fall of 1912. Mr. Sizelove



is widely known through his various activities, is a good judge of men, is liberally educated and has had his mind broadened by travel.

Samuel R. Sizelove was born in Butler County, Ohio, September 28, 1872, and is a son of George W. and Margaret (De Armond) Sizelove, both of whom were born in Butler County. The father was a carpenter by trade. He died in Ohio in 1909, but the mother survives. There were seven children in the family.

Samuel R. Sizelove was reared in his native county and attended the public schools. As he advanced to manhood he determined to prepare himself for the profession of teaching and therefore took a teacher's course in the state normal school at Terre Haute, Indiana, following which he taught school in Newton County for nine years, during a part of this time being a teacher in the graded schools at Morocco. Mr. Sizelove then turned his attention to farming and for a number of years operated a farm near Morocco, in Newton County, in Washington township. In the spring of 1904 he decided upon a trip to the far west, locating in the City of Portland, Oregon, and there, for two years he engaged in the selling of real estate and in bookkeeping for a western firm.

In 1906 Mr. Sizelove returned to Newton County and resumed farming, continuing his agricultural operations until 1911, when he moved to Morocco and there operated a garage until he came to Kentland to assume the duties of county auditor, to which office he had been elected on the democratic ticket, in the fall of 1912. He has proved thorough-going in whatever he has undertaken, and his complete efficiency in his present office is universally conceded.

On September 27, 1897, Mr. Sizelove was united in marriage with Miss Blanche A. Law, who was a daughter of Joseph Law, of Washington Township, and they had three children: Ansel Law, who died when twelve years old; and Lucile and Blanche E. The mother of these children died July 19, 1911. Mr. Sizelove's second marriage took place on June 17, 1914, to Miss Roxie F. Kennedy, who is a daughter of Joseph and Martha J. (Ham) Kennedy, respected old residents of this county.

Mr. Sizelove has always given his political support to the democratic party. He is a man of social nature and highly values his membership with the Knights of Pythias, Castle Hall No. 492, and the Modern Woodmen, both at Morocco. He is a member of the Baptist Church.

CHARLES M. DANIEL. The manifold duties pertaining to the office of county clerk, make this office one of major importance in the management of county affairs, hence, the selection of a capable official at all times is a matter of public concern. In Charles M. Daniel, Newton County, Indiana, has a man of strong, normal, balanced character, who has proved thoroughly efficient in the office of county clerk.

Charles M. Daniel was born in Pulaski County, Indiana, April





2, 1871, and is a son of Jacob E. and Elizabeth (Cooperrider) Daniel. They were natives of Ohio and came from there to Huntington County, Indiana, and shortly after the Civil war moved from there to Pulaski County. About 1880 they removed to Carroll County and there both died. The father was a farmer and the family became well and favorably known in different sections of the state.

In assisting his father on the home farm in Carroll County, and attending the district schools, Charles M. Daniel spent a happy, wholesome boyhood. Later he took a business course at the Northern Indiana Normal School at Valparaiso, but did not immediately put his commercial knowledge to use, having decided to continue his studies and fit himself for the teacher's profession. With this end in view he took a course in the Tri-State Normal School at Angola.

For seventeen years Mr. Daniel remained in the educational field, teaching thirteen years in Carroll County, two years in White County and two years in Newton County, during a part of this time teaching in the graded schools of Yeoman, Monon and Goodland. In 1907 he located permanently in Newton County and after teaching at Goodland for two years, became bookkeeper for the firm of Colburn-Bales Lumber Company, of that place, and continued so engaged until July, 1915, when he removed to Kentland in order to assume the duties of county clerk, to which position he had been appointed to succeed Clerk Howard McCurry, whose death had left a vacancy. Mr. Daniel's qualifications for this office are exceptional, not the least of his advantages being his wide acquaintance with his fellow citizens and the confidence that his past career, both as educator and business man, has instilled. So much of the business passing through the county clerk's office is personal in nature, therefore an official of courteous manner and obliging habit, is very generally appreciated.

On December 29, 1908, Mr. Daniel was united in marriage with Miss Grace Watts, who is a daughter of John Watts, a well known resident of Monticello, Indiana. Mrs. Daniel was reared in the Christian Church and she is connected with many of its benevolent enterprises.

In politics Mr. Daniel has always been identified with the democratic party. He has long been identified, fraternally, with the Masons and the Odd Fellows, and frequently serves on civic bodies in relation to public-spirited measures. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

EGBERT S. HESS, M. D. V. More and more as time goes on do progressive communities prove, by their action in electing educated men to positions of public responsibility, that trained service is most efficient. As conservator of the peace in his county, the sheriff has the heaviest of responsibilities and his equipment for the office, while including physical courage and manly strength, demands today, perhaps much more than it ever did before. With changing times,





Adda Bridgeman





*J. M. Bridgman.*



with industrial restlessness, with war influences which have their effect, more or less, on peaceful people, and with many other causes that arouse and irritate, the office of sheriff, even in peaceful Newton County, brings many perplexing problems. Many of these are being solved through the competency of the present sheriff, Dr. Egbert S. Hess, who is well known professionally all over the county.

Egbert S. Hess was born on his father's farm near Momence, Illinois, September 5, 1878, and is a son of Mahlon and Sarah E. (Lowe) Hess. He grew up on the home farm and attended the country schools and later the Momence High School and subsequently the Northern Indiana Normal School at Valparaiso. He then turned his attention to the educational field and taught school for two terms in Illinois, following which he spent a year as a farmer. In the meanwhile, on the farm while handling his own stock he became so interested in the veterinary art that he decided to perfect his knowledge along this line and entered the McKillip Veterinary College, Chicago, where he remained a student for three years and was graduated in 1906. He entered into the practice of his profession at Kentland and this city has remained his home.

On June 21, 1905, Doctor Hess was united in marriage with Miss Audrey L. Cool. They are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church and Sheriff Hess belongs also to the Methodist Brotherhood. In politics he has always been a republican but accepted his first office when he was elected sheriff in the fall of 1914. Firmness and decision have marked his administration no less than justice and humanity. Sheriff Hess belongs to the Masonic fraternity at Kentland, and has taken the Council degrees at Monticello, Indiana.

GEORGE M. BRIDGEMAN. In the passing of the late George M. Bridgeman in 1914, Newton County lost one of her native sons, and a citizen of inestimable value. Mr. Bridgeman had for sixty-seven years, as man and boy, been identified with the development of the county, and the worthy influence that emanated from his life and works will long be felt in Kentland, and in Newton County.

Mr. Bridgeman was born here on March 18, 1847, and was the son of Levi and Mary (Brown) Bridgeman, old settlers in the county, and both of them of German descent. They were the parents of seven children, three girls and four boys. Three of the seven are living at this writing.

George M. Bridgeman was very young at the time of the breaking out of the Civil war, but he was not to be deterred from enlisting in the cause of the North. To give some idea of the suffering he endured as a soldier we quote from a former history of Newton County, that of 1883. "Eight days before he was seventeen years of age, in March, 1864, he enlisted in Company I, One Hundred and Twenty-eight Regiment, Indiana Volunteer Infantry, under





Colonel DeHart. He was in the battles of Chickamauga, Franklin, Nashville, Columbus and the Atlanta Campaign. On March 9, 1865, at the battle of Kingston, North Carolina, he received a gun-shot wound in the right elbow joint, and also one less severe in the left elbow. He then walked back a mile to the field hospital for treatment, carrying his right arm, which was still attached, with his left hand. He arrived there one hour after he had received the shots. He found the surgeons at work in their quarters, and a wagon-load of arms and legs that had been amputated were on the outside. As there were poor accommodations, Mr. Bridgeman sat down by an oak tree, and there awaited his time until eleven o'clock that night, when his arm was amputated. From loss of blood, exhaustion and the effects of the anaesthetics, he did not return to consciousness for twelve hours. After remaining there five days he was hauled by ambulance five miles over corduroy roads to the railroad. On this trip he was compelled to rest his body on his left elbow to prevent jarring the stump of the right arm. The rough roads and the position caused him to be in a perspiration on his arrival. He then took passage in a box car thirty-five miles over a terribly rough road to New Berne, North Carolina, where he was well cared for. 'That hospital to me,' said Mr. Bridgeman 'seemed as much like home as anything I can ever expect. It was lighted at night, and everybody seemed anxious and willing to do for my comfort, in favorable contrast to what I had experienced.' After six weeks he was taken to McDougal Hospital, New York, where he remained until discharged. He arrived home in time to celebrate 'The Glorious Fourth.' On the 9th of March following it became necessary to reamputate the stump. This wound gives Mr. Bridgeman much trouble and discomfort. Some night the pain compels him to constantly shift positions. Before losing his arm he weighed 167 pounds, and he now weighs 135 pounds." The article further states that "Mr. Bridgeman attended college at Westfield, Illinois, one year, taught school one term, farmed, carried the mail, herded cattle, etc., until 1878, when he was elected recorder of Newton County, which office expired in April, 1884."

Mr. Bridgeman was a republican, and was elected to various public offices in the county in the ensuing years.

On March 9, 1873, Mr. Bridgeman was married to Miss Adda Bennett, the daughter of Harden and Debyan (Houghton) Bennett. They were southern people, the father of Kentucky ancestry and the mother a member of a well known family of Virginians. They were married in Clark County, Illinois, and there lived the remainder of their lives. They were the parents of a large family of twelve children, all of them reaching years of maturity.

To Mr. and Mrs. Bridgeman one son was born,—Clarence O., born November 10, 1873. He married Margaret Smith, and they are living on a Jefferson Township farm. They have no children.

Mr. Bridgeman acquired a farming property of 160 acres in Jef-



fereson Township, and as a farmer and stock breeder he was very successful. He died on January 29, 1914, and is buried in a local cemetery. He was a member of the Woodmen of the World and of the Grand Army of the Republic, while his church membership was with the Methodist Episcopal denomination. The church and all worthy enterprises, either within or without the jurisdiction of the church, received his hearty support, and he was a potent influence for good in his town to the end of his days.

**WILLIAM CUMMINGS.** Among the prominent men of Newton County, now deceased, whose memory is preserved by his fellow citizens in life, with great esteem, was William Cummings, at the time of death being the dean of the Newton County bar.

William Cummings was born in Pennsylvania, May 16, 1844, and was a son of William and Jane Cummings, who, in his childhood moved to Illinois and settled at Ottawa. There William Cummings attended the public schools and grew into educated young manhood. When the Civil war came on he became enthused with the war spirit and subsequently enlisted in Company F, Eighty-eighth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, in which he faithfully served until overtaken by illness. This developed a serious aspect and he was obliged to return home but later was honorably discharged as the records prove.

In 1874 Mr. Cummings came to Newton County and located on a farm northeast of Kentland, in 1876 removing into Kentland in order to better facilitate his study of the law, although not giving up the operating of his farm. He continued his studies at Kentland and also attended the Bryant Law School, Chicago, and in 1877 was admitted to the bar. He did not immediately, however, enter into practice, being appointed at that time deputy county recorder, and he served in that office for four years. Following his return from the army he had previously served one term as clerk of the courts of Grundy County.

On September 6, 1871, William Cummings was married to Miss Emeline Thompson, and they had two children: Roland Ray and Stella, now Mrs. Inman. Mr. Cummings was an able lawyer and an honorable one and during his long period of practice was professionally identified with much important litigation in Newton County. His opinion was sought and his advice taken about many of the reforms and improvements that add to the peace, plenty and legal rights of those now living in this favored section of Indiana. He passed out of life honored and respected, on November 23, 1907, his family surviving him.

**ROLAND RAY CUMMINGS.** Among the younger members of the Newton County bar, no one is better or more favorably known, both personally and professionally, than Roland Ray Cummings, a native of Newton County and a lifelong resident. He was born



July 21, 1880, at Kentland, the only son of William and Emeline (Thompson) Cummings. He was educated in the Kentland schools and when ready to begin the study of law, chose his father as his preceptor, with whom he continued and was admitted to the bar in 1902. During the few remaining years of his father's life he was associated with him but in 1907 began practice for himself.

On September 8, 1898, Roland R. Cummings was united in marriage with Miss Bertha Jones, who died December 6, 1901, a daughter of Schuyler C. and Nancy Jones. Mrs. Cummings was survived by two children: Wilfred S. and Stella, both now attending school. On July 11, 1911, Mr. Cummings was married to Miss Nina Hoover, who is a daughter of George Hoover, of St. Joseph, Missouri.

In politics Mr. Cummings is a sound republican and at present is chairman of the republican county committee of Newton County. His fraternal connections are with the Masonic Blue Lodge and chapter at Kentland, and with the Knights of Pythias. Mrs. Cummings is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church and is greatly interested in church work and in its affiliated benevolent enterprises.

TERRENCE B. CUNNINGHAM. A prominent member of the bar at Kentland, who has built up a practice from a foundation laid in sound professional knowledge, and whose clients are people who are seeking honorable advisors and reputable lawyers, is Terrence B. Cunningham, who was born in Indiana, in his father's home at Kentland, February 13, 1871, a son of Terrence and Oregon (Bramble) Cunningham.

The father of Mr. Cunningham, whose honored name the son bears, was born in County Tipperary, Ireland, and was about twelve years old when he was brought to America by his parents. Shortly after reaching the United States, the family located at Lafayette, Indiana, and there Terrence Cunningham grew to manhood. Shortly after the railroad had been built to Kentland, he came to the place, which then was but a hamlet, and embarked in the grocery business, rightly predicting that the time would come when Kentland would be a place of importance. His first business house was a little frame "shack" standing on what is now the thoroughfare called Railroad Street. Later, in partnership with Patrick Keefe, he continued merchandising, and still later went into the grain and elevator business and in this connection became widely known and acquired an ample fortune, passing the closing days of his life in comfortable retirement. After coming to Kentland he was married to Miss Oregon Bramble and a family of eight children was born to them, all but one of them surviving. In politics he was a democrat and in religion a Roman Catholic. He died December 21, 1902.

Terrence B. Cunningham completed his public school education when he was graduated from the Kentland High School in 1891. Having decided upon the law as a career, he matriculated at the





Edna J. McMillen







William L. Mc Miller



law department of the University of Michigan, at Ann Arbor, and from that noted institution was most creditably graduated in 1893. In December of the same year he went to Oklahoma, and for five months resided at Guthrie and later, for 2½ years practiced law at Oklahoma City. Home ties are not easily broken and the time came when the young lawyer, although doing well in the West, felt the call of his native place and returned to Newton County and has been a resident of Kentland ever since. In spite of the many difficulties that every sincere practitioner of the law has to contend with, Mr. Cunningham has rapidly advanced in his profession and finds himself very often chosen as the counsellor of men and firms of great importance, his professional insight, enabling him, on many occasions to solve cases of perplexing character where large interests are involved.

On November 8, 1902, Mr. Cunningham was united in marriage with Miss Elizabeth A. Boyle, who is a daughter of the late Albert M. Boyle, formerly a resident of Kentland and at one time county recorder of Newton County. Mrs. Cunningham, as well as her husband, is a practicing lawyer, and is a lady of unusual talent. For a number of years prior to her marriage, she was employed in confidential positions in the courthouse. Mr. and Mrs. Cunningham have an adopted daughter, Helen M. Boyle, who is a niece of Mrs. Cunningham and a beautiful and attractive child.

In political affiliation Mr. Cunningham is a democrat and at present is serving as attorney for Newton County. Fraternally he is identified with the Knights of Pythias, the Modern Woodmen, and the Masons of Kentland, Indiana, in the last order having attained the Council degrees at Monticello, Indiana.

**WILLIAM L. McMILLEN.** Beautiful and attractive hotels for the accommodation of the traveler are among the most important institutions of all countries and cities. One of the most attractive hostelries found in Northwest Indiana is presided over by the genial and cordial host and hostess—Mr. and Mrs. William McMillen. The beautiful building, clean, modern, and adorned with growing plants and flowers, is a solace and comfort to the weary traveler. Mr. McMillen has known the pretty Town of Brook and its surrounding agricultural regions for some thirty-three years and he and his estimable wife need no introduction to the citizens of Newton County.

He is a native of Clarke County, Indiana, born June 7, 1865. He is the third of a family of four children, three sons and one daughter, born to Thomas J. and Sarah (Adams) McMillen. Only two are living—Ida, wife of William Martin, a resident of Peoria, Illinois, where he is a merchant, and they have two children; and Mr. McMillen.

Father McMillen was a native of Virginia, not far from Richmond. He was a young man grown when he left Virginia. He was a soldier in the Civil war and enlisted in Company D, Twenty-second



Indiana Volunteers at Indianapolis, and was in the Army of the Cumberland. He was in several battles, including Shiloh and Missionary Ridge, and was wounded in the hand and hip. He was about three years in the service and had received an honorable discharge. He has always attended each Soldiers' Encampment. He was educated in the common schools and was an agriculturist. He was a republican. He died at Isabel, Illinois, being seventy-three years of age at his death. He traced his lineage to the "land of the thistle" bonnie Scotland. His father, Thomas McMillen came from Scotland.

Mother McMillen was a native of Clarke County, and she died when Mr. McMillen was but two years of age. He could not remember his own mother. The father wedded as his second wife, Miss Sarah Burton and there were six children, two sons and four daughters, born to this marriage, all still living: Lola, widow of James Stricker and residing at Isabel, Illinois; Samuel, married, and a resident of Terre Haute, Indiana, where he is a car inspector of the Vandalia Railway; Warren, married, and a resident of Terre Haute, one of the city police; Nora, wife of Aubray Hutchings, an agriculturist; Maggie, wife of Clyde Martin, a resident of Detroit, Michigan, and in an auto factory; Florence, wife of Harry Early, resident of Riley, Indiana and a grain dealer.

Mr. McMillen resided in his native County of Clarke, until eighteen, was educated in the common schools, and is a self-educated man. At this age he left home to begin life as a wage earner on the farm. He left home in October, 1882, and worked for wages until the spring of 1883 and then came to Brook, Indiana. On a farm he began as a wage earner, and began with George O. Conn, and remained with him during the summer and then he worked around by the day here and there. So it is seen that he had no capital, but his industrious disposition and honesty to make his own way. The longest time he worked was with B. F. Warr, with whom he remained about four years by the month and at the end of that time he engaged with Mr. Warr to work the farm on shares, which he did for three years.

At this time Mr. McMillen wedded Miss Edna J. Warr, March 11, 1891, and the young couple located at Brook. Being anxious to make a start in life for themselves, they took charge of a little restaurant, with a capital of only \$500.00. His wife has nobly stood by his side, in labor, counsel and advice, all these years to the present 1916.

Mrs. McMillen is a native of Buckinghamshire, England, born in January 28, 1867, and a daughter of Benjamin F. and Mary Ann (Hedges) Warr.

There were eleven children, five sons and six daughters, in the family. Seven are living and the eldest is William J., a resident of Sweet, Idaho, a merchant and married; Harry, a resident of Brook, Indiana, who married Maud Marrifield; Mrs. McMillen is next;



Dollie is the wife of Samuel Souders of LaFayette, Indiana, president of the Farmers and Traders Bank; Sue is the wife of Charles Adamson, a resident of Brook, Indiana, and relief agent on the Monon Railway; Maude is the wife of Reinhart Bossung, a merchant of Brook, Indiana; Claud, a resident of Brook, is a plumber by trade, and married.

Father Warr was a native of Buckinghamshire, England, was born, May 18, 1836. He grew to manhood in his shire, and was educated in the schools of England and he was an agriculturist. He wedded there and four of the children were born there. He concluded to come to the United States and seek a home and in April, 1869, set sail from Liverpool and landed in New York and came to Joliet, Illinois, and resided on a farm, and about 1871 he returned home to England. After a short time there he came back to America by himself, and in July, 1872, his wife and the children set sail from Liverpool and landed in Castle Garden, New York, and Mrs. McMillen, although only five years of age, remembers well "old Castle Garden."

The trip was about eleven days, crossing the Atlantic Ocean. The family came through to Joliet, Illinois, and they located there until October, 1875, and then came to Brook, Indiana, and this has been their home ever since. The Warr family came from Joliet to Brook in one of the covered wagons such as were used in crossing the plains in the days of '49. Brook was just a village, the mail being carried across the country from Kentland. Father Warr has always been an agriculturist but is now retired, aged eighty years. He is a republican and Methodist. Mother Warr was born April 26, 1838, in the same shire as her husband and was educated in the English schools. She is a member of the Methodist Church and has always been an ardent supporter of the Methodist Episcopal doctrines. She is a lovable and charitable lady and at the venerable age of seventy-eight she is yet like a lady of half the years.

Mrs. McMillen was educated in the schools of Brook and her whole life has been of a stirring and busy character. She is a lady whose chief characteristics are energy, method and promptness in the discharge of her duties. She not only superintends her beautiful hotel but aids her husband in the postoffice since he became postmaster at Brook. She is a member of the Carnation Club, a social organization of the leading ladies of the town. She is a member of the Eastern Star, and is the marshal of the order and she has passed almost all the chairs of the order. She is a member of the Methodist Church.

Mr. McMillen politically is a Jeffersonian democrat and cast his first presidential vote for Cleveland and he has always stood by the principals of the democratic party. Mr. McMillen was appointed postmaster of Brook under the administration of President Wilson. Miss Rose Mayhew is the assistant postmaster and Mrs.





McMillen is his deputy. There are three rural deliveries from Brook, each route covering twenty-five miles. He is a member of the Masonic Lodge at Brook. Both he and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church at Brook, and they aided in the erection of the present modern church and they also aided in the erection of the church before the present one, and they have done their part in all benevolences worthy of their consideration.

It was in the year 1909 that they erected their present modern brick and stone hotel, which is complete in detail. Besides their hotel property they have 320 acres of fine land lying near Grand Forks, North Dakota. So it is seen what Mr. and Mrs. McMillen have accomplished from the little restaurant they began with in Brook when their cash capital did not exceed \$500.00. This shows business acumen and tact worthy of emulation. They are now in the prime of man and womanhood. Mr. and Mrs. McMillen are people who have spent their money liberally in travel. They have seen Niagara Falls, have gone through Canada, and again made an Eastern trip to Washington, District of Columbia, Mt. Vernon, "Washington's Tomb" and the Gettysburg Battlefield. Then they made a Western trip in 1904 to Denver, Colorado Springs, and Pueblo, and then to the mountains of Idaho, visited Salt Lake City and Portland, Oregon, and took the steamer from there to San Francisco, thence to Los Angeles, El Paso, Texas, and crossed the line into "old Mexico" and they saw the Mexican sport—a bull fight—then through Kansas City to St. Louis and attended the Worlds Fair at St. Louis. Mr. McMillen has in his possession his father's regimental badge, indicating the company, regiment and infantry that he was a member of and it is a relic he prizes highly. Mr. and Mrs. McMillen have no children of their own but in the goodness of their hearts they have reared two children. The first was a niece of Mr. McMillen—Catherine Martin, taken when she was about twelve years old, and they educated her in the Brook High School and then they sent her to Indianapolis and gave her a business education. She wedded Ernest Gilbert, a resident of Chicago and engaged as inspector of munitions of war. They have two children, William Lewis and Edna. The next child was a nephew of Mrs. McMillen, Roscoe C. Merchant, aged ten, and they educated him in the Brook High School, and he graduated from Purdue University in the class of 1913. He wedded Miss Lora Witzka of LaFayette. He graduated from the Electrical Engineering Department of Purdue and now he is engaged in the laboratory of an automobile factory in Detroit, Michigan.

**WILLIAM HENRY BURTON.** A half century ago, some of the richest lands in Northern Newton County, Indiana, could be bought for a trifling sum, and those who invested largely in these swamp lands at that time, became what was called "land poor." Modern systems of drainage have changed their character and fortunate



indeed are those who, as a heritage, have come into possession of such land, incomparable for farming and stockraising. William Henry Burton, one of Lake Township's substantial men, owns a good farm of this fine land and has resided here ever since returning from an honorable term of service as a soldier in the Civil war. Mr. Burton is serving in his second term as recorder of Newton County.

William Henry Burton was born in Estell County, Kentucky, March 7, 1841, and is a son of William and Eliza (Walters) Burton, who reared eight of their children to maturity, four of whom yet survive. William Burton came from Kentucky to Kankakee County, Illinois, in 1855, accompanied by his family, and later they moved to Paris, Illinois, where both he and his wife died. He was a farmer all his life, beginning poor but, through industry, becoming wealthy. He invested largely in land in the northern part of Newton County, Indiana, from which, during his lifetime he received no revenue.

William Henry Burton easily recalls the journey from the old home in Kentucky to Illinois, and as he was then fourteen years old, was able to give his father much assistance. He had some educational advantages, first attending school held in a primitive log structure, and later a more advanced school at Kankakee, where he was a pupil for several terms. He was preparing for an agricultural life at the time that Civil war began to threaten, and when it became a certainty he soon made up his mind to participate in the struggle. On September 29, 1861, he enlisted as a private in Company K, Fourth Illinois Cavalry, and after three months spent in the instruction camp at Cairo, Illinois, his regiment joined General Grant's army before Fort Henry. After its reduction the Fourth took an active part in the capture of Fort Donelson, and, continuing with Grant's army to Pittsburg Landing, was engaged in the two days of battle at Shiloh. Mr. Burton during these stirring events was ever at the post of duty and his valor was noticed and during the second day's struggle at Shiloh, he was an orderly on the staff of General Thomas, and was with this command until after the reduction of Corinth.

During the nine months that followed, Mr. Burton was detailed for guard duty, assisting in protecting the railroads from the attacks of the Confederates on the line between Corinth and Memphis, and during the last three months of this time served as orderly on the staff of General Denver. After this Mr. Burton's regiment was encamped on Black River, at the rear of Vicksburg, and in one of the innumerable skirmishes in which he was a participant, Mr. Burton received a severe gunshot wound, through the back of his neck, which knocked him from his horse and otherwise disabled him. Although his was a hospital case he objected to such service and secured permission to remain at headquarters while convalescing, and just as soon as he was able he reported for duty. During the



next nine months he was engaged in the dangerous occupation of scout, with headquarters at Natchez, and it was while there that his term of enlistment expired. He returned to Springfield, Illinois, where he was honorably discharged October 3, 1864, with the rank of sergeant.

Immediately afterward Mr. Burton came to Newton County and for the first three years herded cattle on the wide range of swamp land his father had bought years previously, after which, as conditions improved, primarily through his own efforts, he embarked in farming and stockraising and has continued here ever since and has been actively identified with the material development of Lake Township.

On March 13, 1871, Mr. Burton was united in marriage with Miss Mary J. Watson, who died after becoming the mother of six children, two of whom, Niel W. and Emery M. are yet living. Mr. Burton was married a second time, on February 24, 1889, to Miss Sophia Stankie, and they have four children: Beulah L., Ora G., Calvin R. and Cecil L.

In politics Mr. Burton has always been affiliated with the republican party and his personal standing has been so high that on numerous occasions he has been elected to important public offices. For some years he served as township supervisor and also as township trustee, and at all times his sound judgment and advice founded on experience, have been useful to his community. In 1910 Mr. Burton was elected recorder of Newton County, and in 1914 was re-elected, at which time he was the only republican official of Newton County, Indiana. Mr. Burton is a member of the Grand Army of the Republic at Kentland, Indiana.

HON. RICHARD C. MCCAIN, M. D. For forty years the name of Dr. Richard C. McCain, of Kentland, Indiana, has been as a household word in Newton County. With pride and interest he has watched its wonderful development and, as physician, business man and legislator, has been closely identified with its history. He has been an important figure in the transition period that brought about Newton County as it is today.

Richard C. McCain was born July 10, 1852, at Trenton, Missouri, and is a son of Rev. Cornelius and Eliza Anne (Curry) McCain. Rev. Cornelius McCain was born in Warren County, Ohio, of Scotch ancestry, and in Scotland the name was spelled McKeon. He was a man of superior education, was physically and mentally strong and his life work was well done. As a minister in the Presbyterian Church he traveled about considerably, mainly on the frontier of Missouri and Kansas, but later in life he retired and died at Kentland, Indiana, where, at one time he was in charge of a church. He married Eliza Anne Curry, who was born at Crawfordsville, Indiana, and six children were born to them, two of these yet surviving, Richard C. and his sister.



Very often the family of a minister has no settled home for a time and thus it was that young Richard C. acquired a knowledge of numerous localities while obtaining his early education. During the early part of the Civil war he was with his parents in Missouri, and witnessed some of the border warfare of that period. His father was a graduate of Hanover College, in Southern Indiana, hence he became a student there and after completing the course began the study of medicine under Dr. A. H. Shaffer, who still resides at Huntington, Indiana, being now in his eighty-fifth year.

From Doctor Shaffer's preceptorship, Doctor McCain entered the medical department of the University of Michigan, attending lectures for two terms, and subsequently one term in the old Louisville Medical College, Kentucky, from which he was graduated in March, 1875. For three months he followed his profession at Darlington, Indiana, but in the fall of 1875 came to Kentland, then a small place, and here Doctor McCain has maintained his home ever since, becoming one of the foremost physicians and leading citizens of Newton County. Many well known residents of the present day were assisted into the world through his ministrations and afterward, through his medical care have kept in the path of health.

Everything pertaining to the early days in a section in which one prefers to live permanently, must possess interest and to secure reliable knowledge, outside of statistics, one may profitably listen as the old family doctor for a wide section of country, visualizes the past. In a settling community the physician is cognizant of every public movement, very often being the prime originator of the same. His profession leads him behind the closed doors of family life, and not seldom is he the father confessor and adviser as well as the potent healer. Doctor McCain can very vividly recall his long drives over almost impassable roads, in rain, sleet and snow, in both darkness and daylight, making as swift progress as possible although hampered by conditions little understood by those who have present day privileges in every part of Newton County. On one particular day, January 23, 1882, he awakened to find the whole country side covered with ice and so slippery that horseback riding even was not to be thought of. Perhaps every physician facing such a test, would not have been as conscientious as Doctor McCain, who, notwithstanding the great physical effort required, covered a radius of twenty-five miles and visited and comforted every one of his patients.

Upon the evening of the above strenuous day, Doctor McCain was united in marriage with Miss Gertrude E. Test, a daughter of Thaddeus and Sallie (Myers) Test, and a granddaughter of Judge Charles Test, well known pioneer people of White County, Indiana. The father of Mrs. McCain died when she was three years old. To Doctor and Mrs. McCain twelve children were born.

Since 1883 Doctor McCain has been interested also in the drug business at Kentland, Indiana. For many years he has been an





important factor in the republican party in the state, and in 1905 he was elected to the state senate, representing for four years the counties of Newton, Jasper and White, and demonstrated on many occasions while in the general assembly, the wisdom of submitting the solving of important problems that would result in the formulation of new laws, to men of scientific training and experience.

Ever since becoming a resident of Kentland Doctor McCain has assumed his share of public responsibility when called on, has served as health officer and was a member of the school board. He is identified with the Masons and the Knights of Pythias in Kentland. With his family he belongs to the Presbyterian Church.

ELMER McCRAY. A leading member of a family that has been closely and honorably identified with Newton County for many years, the late Elmer McCray was respected by his business associates and sincerely esteemed by all those who had been admitted to his friendship and into his private life. His death, on April 11, 1874, marked the passing of one of Newton County's pioneers, a man of acknowledged sterling character, one whose ambitions had been noble and whose helpful influence had always been exerted in the direction of worthy enterprises.

Elmer McCray was born in Fayette County, Indiana, October 12, 1834. His parents were William and Lucinda (Edwards) McCray, the former a native of Ohio and the latter of Pennsylvania. The ancestral lines may be traced to Scotland, Ireland and England, but the first of the name in the United States, seems to have been the progenitor of a family in Connecticut and from there its members have drifted to other sections. In Indiana at the present day the family name is one that is conspicuous both in business and politics.

Elmer McCray was fifteen years old when his parents moved to Crawfordsville, where he attended the public schools. Later he became a student in Bacon's Commercial College at Cincinnati, Ohio, where he was graduated in 1856, thus being much better prepared to enter the business world than many of the youths of his age and acquaintance. Probably his first important business venture, was the purchase of a timber tract. The hard work incident to clearing and improving this tract did much to impair his health.

In October, 1861, Mr. McCray came to Newton County with his brother, the late Greenbury W. McCray, and they bought a tract of land and went into the business of farming and cattle-raising. Mr. McCray remained on the farm until the fall of 1868, when he came to Kentland to establish his home although he continued to be interested in his farm activities. At that time Kentland had few transportation facilities and Mr. McCray, with business acumen, recognized a promising field for an extensive livery business and soon built a livery barn, the first ever erected in Kentland. The business proved profitable and he continued to conduct it and also,





Dr. Emil Lesser



at the time of his death, was interested in a farm implement concern.

On October 8, 1867, Elmer McCray was united in marriage with Miss Eliza Kern, who was born in Pennsylvania April 20, 1843, and was reared in her native state. She is a daughter of John S. and Catherine (Tittle) Kern, with whom she came to Michigan and thence to Indiana. Her father died at Rensselaer and her mother at Logansport, both being interred at the latter place. She is a member of the Presbyterian Church. Three children were born to Mr. and Mrs. McCray, but all are deceased, William K. was educated in the Kentland High School, and was scarcely twenty years of age when he went into the stationery business in Kentland. Although successful in the venture, he sold his interest and organized the Kentland Telephone Company at Kentland, and had lines running to Goodland, Brook, Sheldon, Iroquois, Earl Park, Raub and Morocco. He was signally successful in this business, but on account of failing health sold his interests for \$14,000, and spent three winters in Florida to recuperate. He was afterward engaged in the cement business in Kentland for four years. He married Miss Virginia Smith, of Kokomo, Indiana, and their four children are all living: Elmore, who is a member of the class of 1917 of the Kentland High School; Margaret, who is completing the eighth grade work; Elizabeth, who was born in Florida and is in school; and Virginia, the youngest. Mr. William McCray affiliated with the republican party, was a member of the Knights of Pythias fraternity at Kentland, and both he and his wife were members of the Presbyterian Church. He lies buried in the Kentland Cemetery, where a beautiful stone stands sacred to his memory. John Ade, the second son of Mr. and Mrs. Elmer McCray, received the same educational advantages as his brother William, and became a salesman. He too was a republican. He was a member of the Masonic and Knights of Pythias fraternities, and was buried with Masonic rites. Lillic, the only daughter, died in infancy.

Mr. McCray was a staunch republican in politics but never was willing to accept public office, preferring to confine his attention to his private interests. In his own home he found the atmosphere he loved best and thus never cared to identify himself with any secret organization. He was a firm believer in the doctrines of the Presbyterian Church, gave liberally to this body at Kentland, and his burial was in the church cemetery. Mr. McCray left a large estate, including city properties and 320 acres of fine farm land.

Following out her husband's general scheme of life Mrs. McCray, some time ago, gave to Kentland the lot upon which the public library now stands.

EMIL BESSER, M. D. In the medical profession the achieving of success worthy of the name can come only to the man who has not only prepared himself most fully in a technical way but who



also turns his attention to this exacting and responsible vocation with a high sense of personal stewardship, with an earnest desire to be of service to his fellow men and with an animating sympathy that transcends mere emotion to become a positive force of helpfulness. Doctor Besser has won such success and in the course of his long and effective service as a physician and surgeon he has held closely to the highest ethics of his profession and been appreciative of its most noble and worthy traditions, the while he has spared neither time nor effort in keeping himself at all times abreast of the advances made in medical and surgical science. He is engaged in the general practice of his profession at Remington, Jasper County, and is looked upon as guide, counselor and friend in many representative family homes within his sphere of zealous and self-abnegating labor. Thus there is all of consistency in designating him as one of the leading members of his profession in this section of the Hoosier State, where he is held in unqualified popular confidence and esteem and where the unswerving loyalty of his friends is on a parity with that which he himself accords. The doctor is a liberal and public-spirited citizen and his success in temporal affairs has been such that he has been able to wield much influence in business connections aside from the work of his profession, the while he has shown loyal interest in all things touching the communal welfare.

Doctor Besser claims the Hawkeye State as the place of his nativity and is a scion of one of its sterling pioneer families. He was born at Harper, Keokuk County, Iowa, on the 11th of April, 1869, and is the only son and eldest child in a family of four children; the second in order of birth was Matilda, who is the wife of Harry D. Funk, a prosperous manufacturer at Chicago Heights, a virtual suburb of the great western metropolis, the City of Chicago; Henrietta is the wife of Joseph Clarahan, a successful agriculturist of Keokuk County, Iowa, where they maintain their home in the Village of Harper; and May remains at the parental home, in the same village. Doctor Besser is a son of John P. and Emelia (Krach) Besser, the former of whom was born in Parcel, Prussia, and the latter in the Province of Mecklenburg of the great German Empire. John P. Besser was a child at the time of his parents' immigration to America, and the family home was established in Iowa in the early pioneer period of the history of that commonwealth. There he received good educational advantages, for Iowa has from an early day to the present maintained specially high status in the domain of education, and he has long held prestige as one of the able and influential exponents of agricultural industry in the state to whose material and civic development and progress he has contributed his quota. He is now the owner of a fine landed estate of 320 acres and is one of the substantial and highly honored citizens of Keokuk County. He is a stalwart and effective advocate of the principles of the democratic party and has been influential in public affairs





of a local order, as indicated by the fact that he formerly held the office of sheriff of Keokuk County, an incumbency which he retained eight years. He is affiliated with the Masonic fraternity and both he and his wife hold membership in the Lutheran Church, Mrs. Besser having been an infant at the time of her parents' immigration from Germany to the United States.

Like many another who has achieved precedence in the medical profession, Doctor Besser found his childhood and youth compassed by the benignant influences of the farm, and he early began to accord effective assistance in the work and management of the old homestead place, the while he fully availed himself of the advantages afforded in the local schools. His ambition first led him to prepare for the veterinary profession, and in 1887 he was graduated in the Iowa State Veterinary College, with the degree of Doctor of Veterinary Surgery. For eight years thereafter he was engaged in active and successful practice as a skilled veterinarian, with residence and professional headquarters in his native Town of Harper. In the meanwhile the doctor had manifested his versatility of talent by identifying himself successfully with business enterprise, as he was for three years actively identified with the clothing business at Harper, and after his retirement from this line of mercantile enterprise he was for two years engaged in the dry-goods business in the same village. The very nature of the scientific and practical work which fell to his portion as a representative of the veterinary profession had a tendency to quicken his appreciation of the greater opportunities offered in the more exacting and responsible profession of medicine and surgery, and he finally determined to prepare himself for the higher profession in which he has since attained to marked success and prestige. In 1896 he entered the medical department of the University of Iowa, at Iowa City, where he continued his studies two years. He was then matriculated in the Chicago Medical College, in which representative institution of the western metropolis he was graduated as a member of the class of 1899 and with the well earned degree of Doctor of Medicine. At this juncture it may consistently be noted that each successive year the doctor avails himself of effective post-graduate study and work in Chicago, with a view to keeping himself in close touch with the advances made in his profession, besides which he has recourse to the best standard and periodical literature of his profession, with a private technical library that is especially select and comprehensive.

On the 14th of February, 1899, shortly after his graduation in the medical college, Doctor Besser made his appearance in Remington, Indiana, a total stranger and with his available capitalistic resources represented in the sum of about \$25. With characteristic zeal and self-reliance he initiated the practice of his profession, and his ability and sterling character soon enabled him to develop a substantial practice, so that his novitiate was of brief duration. He



has developed a very extensive general practice and his unqualified success offers the best voucher for his ability, close application and personal popularity. The prestige that is his is indicated by the fact that his practice is not confined to Jasper County but extends also into Benton, White and Newton counties. His medical library comprises more than 200 volumes, and his office equipment includes the best of modern laboratory facilities, including the X-ray machine. He is an influential and valued member of the Jasper and Newton County Medical Society, of which he has served as president, and also maintains active affiliation with the Indiana State Medical Society and the American Medical Association.

The business acumen of Doctor Besser has not been denied fruitful exemplification during the period of his residence in Jasper County, and he has entered most fully into the varied phases of community life, with an influence that has been in all respects benignant. He has made judicious investment in farm land in Jasper County and also in the State of South Dakota, and the aggregate area of his landed estate at the present time is 1,074 acres, besides which he is the owner of valuable realty in his home village of Remington and at Reusselacr, the county seat. He is a stockholder in the State Bank of Remington and owns one-half of the stock of the Remington Telephone Company, of which he is president. This company has a list of 525 subscribers and gives to them the best of modern telephone service. In this field of enterprise the doctor has extended his activities still further, for he is the owner of the Reynolds Telephone Company, of Reynolds, White County, which effectively gives service to 200 subscribers.

As a citizen Doctor Besser is most liberal and progressive and though he has had no desire for public office he is found aligned as a staunch supporter of the cause of the republican party. He is affiliated with the Masonic fraternity, the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, in which last mentioned organization he is affiliated with the lodge in the City of Lafayette.

**BARNETT HAWKINS.** Among the early families that settled in Newton County, Indiana, that are still well and worthily represented here, were those bearing the distinctive English names of Hawkins and Jones. The former, for generations, had lived in New York, and the latter in Ohio. Both came to Indiana as home-seekers, industrious, upright, Christian people, and were, with others, founders and promoters of those civilizing agencies that are yet reminders of the older generation, churches, schools and temperance. The late Barnett Hawkins for many years was a man of high standing at Kentland, where his death occurred July 9, 1903.

Barnett Hawkins was born at Poughkeepsie, New York, December 9, 1834. His parents were Edgar and Lydia (Ward) Hawkins, the latter belonging to an old Quaker family that still, in many sec-



tions, maintains the simplicity of the old faith. Of the six children born to this marriage, which took place in New York, two survive, George and Frank Hawkins. When the family began migrating, it settled first at Michigan City, Indiana. From there removal was made to Laporte, and in 1850 Edgar Hawkins settled on farm land near Brook. He acquired three separate tracts of eighty acres each, a part of which was government land. He owned also a mill at Brook, and his death was caused through an accident happening in this mill. For a number of years he served in the office of justice of the peace. Both he and wife were active members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, she uniting with the same at the time of her marriage.

Barnett Hawkins had only those educational advantages that casual attendance in the old log schoolhouse near his father's farm could give, in his boyhood and early youth, but he made such good use of his opportunities that he was able to teach school and thereby provide means for attending college at Greencastle. He learned the carpenter trade and followed the same as a vocation during the greater part of his subsequent life. He became well known over the county, coming to Kentland in 1865. He was a hard working, industrious man and skilled in his trade. He was a conscientious citizen of Newton County but seldom was willing to accept public responsibilities, serving, however, several terms as county surveyor.

On April 25, 1857, Mr. Hawkins was united in marriage with Miss Anna V. Jones, a daughter of Cornelia and Mathilda (Minchell) Jones. The parents of Mrs. Hawkins came to Indiana from Ohio in 1860 and settled near Brook where they remained during the rest of their lives. Of their eleven children seven are living. Mr. Jones was a farmer and stockraiser. In early life a whig, he later became a republican.

Six children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Hawkins: Florence N., born January 25, 1858, died October 29, 1860; Homer E., born September 10, 1861; Frederick G., born January 10, 1866, died June 18, 1870; Arthur E., born September 13, 1868; Edgar C., born July 25, 1870; and Clyde B., born July 24, 1876. Mr. Hawkins lived to see many changes in Newton County and his influence was ever beneficial.

ANDREW HALL. As a pioneer citizen of Newton County, the late Andrew Hall is deserving of special mention in this historical and biographical work, if for no other reason. He was born on a farm near Berlin, Ohio, on May 14, 1831, and was a son of Edward and Sarah (McClure) Hall, both coming from families of English ancestry. He was one of their eleven children, of whom three are yet living, and the parents spent their lives in the State of Ohio.

Andrew Hall began his independent career at the early age of sixteen years. Up to that time he had received such educational advantages as the very primitive schools of the day afforded, and



when he launched out on his own responsibility he was not prepared for anything but manual labor. However, he secured work in a printing office and there learned the printer's trade, at which he worked for some years. In 1866 he came to Newton County and settled on a farm near Goodland, spending four years there in that work, when he was elected to the office of clerk of Newton County, as the candidate of the republican party. He served one full term in the office and a part of another, when he resigned from the office and engaged once more in farming. He prospered in his farming career, and the fine farm of 100 acres he came to possess is still in the family ownership.

On May 23, 1865, Mr. Hall married Miss Emily Allen, the daughter of Jeremiah and Sarah (Wilson) Allen, people of Pennsylvania birth, who later settled in Ohio and there spent the remainder of their lives. Four children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Hall. Margaret, the first born, is still at home. Winogene is the wife of Dr. F. W. Heatlie. Charles H. is also living at home, and Raymond L. is in Chicago.

Mr. Hall was a man of very quiet instincts. He loved his home and the home life, and found no pleasure in the good-fellowship arising from membership in fraternal and other societies, which is so important a feature in the life of the average man. Good citizenship was a religion to him, and few men have lived more creditably in their home communities than did he. His widow survives him.

**JAMES W. DODSON.** Sixty-five years ago saw the advent of the pioneer citizen, James W. Dodson, late of Kentland, into Newton County, Indiana. He was of Kentucky birth and parentage, the son of an old and honorable family in that state, and he was still a very young man when he left the Blue Grass region for Ohio and later penetrated the then wilderness of Central Illinois. From Bloomington, in 1850, he came to Kentland, and here he spent the remainder of his life. Prosperity followed him all his days, and much of credit is due to him for his share in the work of developing Newton County. When he died he left some property, an honored name and a family that honors itself in the respect and homage it has paid to him.

James W. Dodson was born in Kentucky, August 31, 1808, and he died on May 19, 1863, in Kentland, then known as Kent Station, Newton County, Indiana. He was twice married. His first wife was Mary Ann Reynolds, born March 18, 1810, and she died April 22, 1839, leaving two children. Mary Ann, died April 11, 1839, and William R. died March 27, 1903. On February 16, 1841, Mr. Dodson married Rebecca Sailor, who was born September 30, 1822, and she died on December 19, 1909. Seven children were born of this second union. They are mentioned as follows: John S., born July 7, 1842, and died June 17, 1844; Jesse, born April 18, 1844, and died January 16, 1910; Mary Jane, born March 7, 1846, and







DODSON FAMILY HOME  
From 1862 to 1886



died June 14, 1899. She married John Strohm, who died on October 17, 1872, and they had one son, Harry A. Strohm, now living in Evanston, Illinois. Ruth E. was the fourth child in this family of seven. She was born August 23, 1847, and died October 24th of that year. Lewis S., born March 30, 1849; Squire M., born July 26, 1851, died May 15, 1915; Jeremiah, the youngest, was born on June 5, 1854. Of the three last named, further mention will be made in later paragraphs.

When James W. Dodson left his native state, Kentucky, he came to Ohio, settling first in the vicinity of Degraf. In 1847 he came with his little family to Bloomington, Illinois, and remained there, variously occupied, until 1850, which year marked his arrival in Newton County. He secured a forty acre tract of land about five miles northwest of the present site of Kentland, and there he lived for some years. He was a man of great mechanical skill, and besides being a successful farmer, he was a capable shoemaker, in dull seasons plying his trade with needle and awl, and finding plenty of occupation for the long winter months when farming was at a standstill. He was also a manufacturer of fireworks and he is credited with having made the fireworks that were used at Bloomington during the long remembered Zachary Taylor presidential campaign that display being the first of its kind to be seen in Bloomington. It was the custom in those days for the shoemaker to visit the homes where his services were required, and he spent many pleasant days as the guest of various families in the county while busily engaged in making shoes for both great and small. He was a man of many pleasing qualities, and it is said that he was so pleasant a companion that he was often called upon to make unnecessary pairs of shoes, so loth were his employers to see the end of his stay. A great lover of music, he was a very creditable flutist, and wherever he went he was pressed into service as an entertainer. He also was the possessor of a very pleasing voice, and it was no uncommon thing for him to sit up until the small hours of the morning, singing and playing with friends. Among the most cherished possessions of his sons is a singing book, published in 1813, and much used by their father during his lifetime.

Mr. Dodson is a pioneer in the truest sense of the word, and his life stood for a quality of citizenship that is the very foundation of civic uprightness and solidity. He was a whig in early life, later a republican, and while he never sought office or cared for public life, he was deeply interested in public affairs and lent his influence to every movement inaugurated for the advancement and betterment of his community. He was a lifelong member of the Baptist Church. He was only fifty-three years old when he died, and it is now more than fifty years since he passed on, but his influence still lives in Newton County.

Leas Dodson, son of James and Rebecca (Sailor) Dodson, was born near Bloomington, Illinois, and he came to Newton County



as a small child with his parents. Here he and his brothers, Squire M. and Jeremiah V., grew to man's estate. They went to school in the old log cabin school houses of that period, and they experienced all the hardships and joys incident to pioneer life. For twenty-eight years they were associated in a business partnership in Kentland, but retired in October, 1910, after a very successful career as hardware dealers. They have reflected the high standards that dominated the life of their father in all their enterprises, and have won high places in the esteem and regard of their associates and fellow citizens. Like their father, they have never been seekers for political honors, but have been leaders in the best public activities of their city.

PERRY M. D. WASHBURN. A publication of this order exercises its supreme and most consistent function when it enters memorial tribute to so sterling a pioneer and honored a citizen as the late Perry M. D. Washburn, who played a benignant part in the civic and industrial development and progress of Newton County and who passed virtually his entire life within the gracious borders of the fine old Hoosier State. He was numbered among the earliest settlers in the vicinity of Kentland, and his wife was one of definite consecration to worthy industry and noble aims and ideals. He was for many years numbered among the sturdy yeomen of this favored section of the state and he made his farm one of the model places of Benton County. Though an earnest and successful exponent of the basic industry of agriculture, Mr. Washburn did not hedge his life about with mere personal advancement but was loyal and faithful in his civic attitude and wielded benignant influence in the community life. He attained to the venerable age of eighty-one years and was summoned to eternal rest on the 9th of May, 1911, secure in the high esteem of all who knew him.

A scion of one of the honored pioneer families of the Buckeye State, Mr. Washburn was born in Athens County, Ohio, on the 29th of October, 1830, one of the eight children born to Eleazer and Sophia (McAfee) Washburn. Eleazer Washburn was born in Massachusetts and was a representative of one of the fine old colonial families of New England. As a young man he made his way into Ontario, Canada, where his marriage was solemnized, and with his young wife he finally removed to Ohio, in which state he remained until 1834, when he removed with his family to Indiana and became a pioneer farmer near Noblesville, Hamilton County, where he continued to reside for many years, though the closing period of his life was passed in the State of Texas. He was a man of sterling character and both he and his wife were scions of staunch Scottish stock, exemplifying in their personalities the worthy attributes that have made the Scotch type significant in sturdy integrity and usefulness in all of the relations of life.

Perry M. D. Washburn was about four years old at the time





*Frydrik Wasklar*







Mrs Mary E Washburn



of the family removal from Ohio to Indiana, and he was reared to maturity on the pioneer farm in Hamilton County, where his early educational advantages were those afforded in the primitive log-cabin schoolhouse. His alert and vigorous mind caused him to profit fully from the instruction thus gained and also to widen his intellectual horizon in later years of active association with the practical duties and responsibilities of life. He continued to assist in the work and management of the home farm until he had attained to his legal majority, and he then entered the employ of A. D. Graf of Ohio who was at that time engaged in railroad construction work between Indianapolis and the Wabash River. Still later he was similarly associated with the firm of Boody, Ross & Company, of New York, the builders of the Wabash Valley Railroad.

In 1855 Mr. Washburn married, and in the following year he and his young wife settled in Marshall County, where he purchased land and engaged in farming. Four years later, in 1860, Mr. Washburn disposed of his farm of forty acres and purchased a farm in Pulaski County, on the Tippecanoe River and seven miles north of Winamac. In 1864 he removed with his family to Newton County and for about twelve years thereafter he had the management of a large stock farm owned by Alexander J. Kent, the honored pioneer who was the founder of the present thriving Town of Kentland. At the time of his removal to Newton County Mr. Washburn had met with adversity that left the family practically destitute, his farm crops for the year having been destroyed by a severe frost. During the ensuing winter he provided for his family by working as a section hand on the railroad, and in the spring he assumed his place as a valued employee of Mr. Kent, as previously mentioned. After the lapse of twelve years he purchased a farm of 160 acres, in Richland Township, Benton County, but this property he sold three years later, only to expand his field of operations as an agriculturist and stock-grower, for, in 1880, he purchased 320 acres of land in the same township, two miles north of the Village of Earl Park. He made this one of the splendid landed estates of this part of Indiana and on this fine homestead he continued to reside until his death. From an appreciate estimate that appeared in a Kentland paper at the time of the death of Mr. Washburn are taken, with minor changes, the following quotations, which are well worthy of preservation in this more enduring form:

"Mr. Washburn was one of the 'grand old men' of this community. His life, with the labors and successes achieved during its time, was a model that all men might do well to imitate. He was ever honest and honorable in all his dealings with his fellow men, and, though a shrewd business man, he would rather give than take any little difference that might occur in the completion of any trade transaction. He was a man of exemplary habits; was ever kind, charitable and considerate and a solicitous and devoted husband and father. He was a progressive and successful farmer, and as a result of his labors in and accumulations from that vocation he left a goodly



inheritance for each of his large family of worthy and deserving children. The funeral of this honored pioneer citizen was held from the family home, the services being conducted by Rev. J. L. Brady, of Rensselaer, who was assisted by Rev. J. Bennett, of Kentland, and Rev. McEwan, of Earl Park, the remains being laid to rest in Fairlawn Cemetery. The funeral was one of the most largely attended of all that have been held in the community. Mr. Washburn was a great lover of his home and family. A citizen of irreproachable character, he was a valuable man in his community and his passing was a genuine loss."

As a citizen Mr. Washburn was always ready to do his part in the furtherance of those measures and enterprises that tended to advance the general welfare of the community, and though he was a staunch democrat in politics he had no ambition for public office. He was, however, called upon to serve as township assessor, a position of which he continued the incumbent for twelve years.

On the 1st of October, 1855, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Washburn to Miss Mary Elizabeth Clayton, daughter of Ephraim and Mary (Bonscher) Clayton. Mr. Clayton was born in Fairfield County, Ohio, and his wife was a native of Pennsylvania, her death having occurred when her daughter Mary Elizabeth (Mrs. Washburn) was but four years old, and the family home at the time having been in DeKalb County, Indiana. After the death of his wife Mr. Clayton removed to Miami County, and later he became the owner of a farm near Winemac, Pulaski County, where he died in June, 1862. Of the three children Benjamin and Eliza are deceased, and Mrs. Washburn, now venerable in years, is the only surviving member of the immediate family. Mr. and Mrs. Washburn became the parents of nine children, of whom two are deceased, John having died at the age of five years and Gertrude at the age of two months. The surviving children are: Clayton, who resides at Fowler, and who has three children; Angus D., who is a resident of Kentland and who is individually mentioned on other pages of this work; Benton, who is one of the representative farmers of Benton County, where he owns a farm of 400 acres, he and his wife having six children; Estelle is the wife of Sherman N. Geary, of Benton County; James A. is likewise personally represented in this publication; Garland is a retired farmer residing at Earl Park and is the father of two children; and Miss Grace, the youngest of the children, remains with her widowed mother in the pleasant home at Kentland.

**ANGUS D. WASHBURN.** A well known and distinctively popular citizen of Kentland, Newton County, Angus D. Washburn has been a resident of this favored section of the Hoosier State for more than half a century and is a representative of one of the honored pioneer families whose name has been worthily linked with the social and industrial history of Northwestern Indiana. In the memoir, on other pages of this publication, dedicated to his honored father, the



late Perry M. D. Washburn, are given adequate data concerning the family record, so that further details need not be entered in the present article.

Angus D. Washburn was born in Marshall County, Indiana, on the 2d of November, 1858, and he was a lad of five years at the time of the family removal to Newton County, where he was reared to adult age under the conditions and influences of the pioneer farm and where he early began to learn the lessons of practical industry, as the financial situation of his parents at that time was such that it devolved upon him to aid in the support of the family. His father was for twelve years employed by the late Alexander Kent, who proved a true benefactor to the Washburn family as well as to many others in the community, this honored pioneer having been the founder of the Village of Kentland, which perpetuates his name. In 1868, under the direction of his father, Angus D. Washburn began herding cattle on the Newton County stock farm of Mr. Kent and in the meanwhile his educational opportunities were limited to a somewhat irregular attendance in the common schools of the locality. In 1870, with the rapid settlement of this section of the state, the open cattle range in Newton County was closed, but for many years thereafter Mr. Washburn continued in the employ of Mr. Kent, whose name and memory he reveres. In 1883 he established his residence on a tract of land near Fair Oaks, Newton County, and he long continued his active association with the raising and herding of cattle, day after day having found him riding over the land on horseback, so that the saddle came to represent his abiding place during much of the time of his active service.

The first land purchased by the father of Mr. Washburn was a tract of forty acres, in Benton County, and this embryonic farm was obtained in the year 1868. Thereafter he continued to invest his money judiciously in the purchase of additional land, with the result that, by energy and good management he eventually accumulated a large landed estate in this section of Indiana. Upon the division of the family estate the other sons took land but Angus D., of this review, received as his share the sum of \$5,000 in cash. He has been careful and circumspect in his business transactions and activities and has shown himself to be an able and progressive man of affairs. He has bought and sold many acres of land and at the present time is the owner of 2,000 acres of most fertile and valuable land in Newton, Benton and Jasper counties, besides his beautiful residence property in the attractive and thriving Village of Kentland. He is vice president of the Kentland State Bank, known as one of the strong and popular financial institutions of this part of the state. In 1911 Mr. Washburn erected at Kentland his present dwelling, which is one of the most modern and attractive homes in the village and which is known for its generous and unostentatious hospitality, with Mrs. Washburn as its popular chatelaine.





Mr. Washburn has been distinctively loyal and public-spirited in his civic attitude, is a staunch advocate of the cause of the democratic party and cast his first presidential vote in support of President Cleveland. He served three years as a member of the board of county commissioners of Newton County and was zealous in the support of progressive policies, with careful consideration of the general administration of county affairs. Within his period of service was completed the erection of the fine county infirmary building, at a cost of \$25,000. He and his wife are zealous members of the Christian Church at Kentland and contribute liberally to the support of the various departments of its work. They enjoy most fully the generous prosperity which is their portion and they delight in the entertainment of their host of friends in the community.

On the 4th of January, 1894, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Washburn to Miss Myrtle Caldwell, and they have two children: Howard C. was graduated in the Kentland High School as a member of the class of 1915, and is now a student in the liberal arts department of Miami University, at Oxford, Ohio, in which he is a member of the class of 1918. He is there affiliated with the Sigma Chi fraternity and he is a member of the Christian Church. Helen J. is a member of the class of 1919 in the high school at Kentland and is a popular factor in the activities of the younger social circles of her home village, where she holds membership in the Christian Church.

Mrs. Washburn was born and reared in Newton County and is a daughter of Dr. S. N. and Mary (McKinney) Caldwell. She is the only daughter in a family of four children, and her brothers, Mack, Samuel O. and Newton G., are now extensive cattle owners in the Province of Alberta, Canada. Doctor Caldwell was born at Piqua, Ohio, was graduated in the Cincinnati Medical College, and in 1865 he established his residence in Newton County, Indiana, where he engaged in the practice of his profession and where his consecration to his humane mission was shown by his earnest stewardship, for he traversed in the early days the almost impassable swamps and rough roads of winter and summer to give aid to those in suffering and distress. He was generous, kindly and sympathetic and never refused his ministrations no matter how great the hardship involved or how slight the hope of receiving financial recompense for his services. His name and memory are revered in the county that long represented his home. After the death of his first wife the doctor contracted a second marriage and the one child of this union is Grace, who is a milliner by occupation and who finds demand for her effective work at various places in the Union, in the successive seasons, the year 1916 finding her engaged at her trade in the City of Albuquerque, New Mexico, though she looks upon the residence of Mr. and Mrs. Washburn as her home. Mrs. Washburn gained her early education in the public schools and received



a teacher's certificate, though she never engaged in active pedagogic service. She is a popular figure in the representative social life of her home village and has made the family home a veritable center of gracious hospitality.

FRANK A. COMPARET. One of the most learned of Newton County's early legal practitioners, was the late Frank A. Comparet, whose long membership on the Kentland bar was such as to reflect credit on both himself and the organization. As a citizen of Kentland, he was earnest, helpful and practical and when such men pass from life a community sustains a decided loss.

Frank A. Comparet was born at Fort Wayne, Indiana, April 8, 1860, a son of Joseph and Marian (Alexander) Comparet. On the paternal side the ancestry was French and on the maternal, was Scotch-Irish.

The Comparet family was closely identified with the early growth and development of Fort Wayne, and there the paternal grandfather of Frank A. Comparet died and was buried. In 1868, Joseph Comparet, his father, brought his family to Newton County but later removed to the State of Washington and died there some years afterward. He married Marian Alexander in Indiana and of their four children but one is now living.

Frank A. Comparet attended the public schools at Kentland and in 1878 was graduated from the high school. He never had collegiate advantages but was of a studious habit of mind, a lover of good literature and thus was mainly self educated, becoming one of the best informed men of his day at Kentland. He accumulated a fine library of standard books and many of his happiest hours were spent in their company.

Shortly after graduating from the high school, Mr. Comparet determined on the study of law and for this purpose became a student in the law office of Judge J. T. Saunderson, later becoming his partner in the practice of law. For twenty-one years this partnership was maintained and was dissolved only when failing health required Judge Saunderson to seek another climate, he removing then to Oklahoma. For some time after the departure of Judge Saunderson, Mr. Comparet continued alone in practice, but subsequently finding his duties too heavy to attend to alone, he entered into another partnership, his association with John Higgins continuing thereafter up to his death on November 6, 1905. His ability as a lawyer was universally recognized and he was known as a safe counselor because of the profundity of his legal knowledge.

On February 26, 1884, Mr. Comparet was united in marriage with Miss Fannie McCray, who is a daughter of Greenbury Ward and Martha J. (Galey) McCray, and a sister of Hon. Warren T. McCray, one of the prominent men of Northern Indiana. To Mr. and Mrs. Comparet one son was born, Donald, on September 14, 1885, who graduated with the class of 1903 in the Kentland High



School, and for a time was engaged in the Discount and Deposit Bank of Kentland, Indiana, which his grandfather had established years ago. He was a young man of exceptional habits, and commanded the respect of all who came in contact with him. He died at the age of twenty-one years, a young man of much promise. Mrs. Comporet survives and is held in the highest esteem in the community in which she has passed much of her life. Her social circle includes many of the old substantial families of the county.

EDGAR LOTT PRESHER. Newton County knew the life and influence of the late Edgar Lott Presher for something like thirty-five years prior to his passing in 1901. He was a farming man, for the most part, though he spent about five years in the successful operation of an electric light plant in Kentland, and was known throughout the county as something of a mechanical genius. Had he elected mechanics for his career it is reasonably certain that he would have made a splendid success of the work, but he loved rural life, and found his best happiness in carrying on his farm in Jefferson Township, which he operated profitably for twenty-four years.

Mr. Presher was born in Kendall County, Illinois, on September 7, 1844, and he was a son of Lott and Eliza P. (Gridley) Presher, both natives of the State of New York. They came to Kendall County from New York in 1843, and there the father followed his trade of mechanic, but gave some time to farming ventures, as well. He died in February, 1874. They were the parents of three children: William Henry, Sarah Eliza and Edgar Lott, all now deceased. The father was a republican and a member of the Baptist Church. His wife survived him, and died in Newton County, greatly advanced in years.

Edgar Lott Presher received limited educational advantages in the primitive schools of his native county, and when he was seventeen years old he began his independent career as the operator of a threshing machine. He owned the machine and ran it on his own responsibility, finding a good business in that line for a number of seasons. He, it is presumed, inherited his mechanical tendencies from his father, and all his life he displayed a remarkable bent for work along those lines.

He was just twenty-one years old when he married. The wedding took place on December 21, 1865, at Ottawa, Illinois, Miss Melissa S. Watson becoming his wife. She was the daughter of Joseph L. and Alisa (Philip) Watson, both of them pioneers of LaSalle County, Illinois. Two sons were born to Mr. and Mrs. Presher. Joseph Lott married Mrs. Eva Montgomery, and Edgar Blye is unmarried.

Mr. and Mrs. Presher came to Newton County on September 21, 1867, and for two years they maintained a residence in what is now Kentland. They then moved on a farm of 200 acres, located



in Jefferson Township, and for the ensuing twenty-four years these good people continued to live there, devoted to agricultural life. In those years they developed one of the finest farms in their community, and when they felt ready to retire from active life they took up their residence in Kentland, where Mr. Presher died on March 1, 1901.

Mr. and Mrs. Presher were members of the Baptist Church and active workers in the cause. All his life Mr. Presher was a liberal giver to the church and to every good work that was carried on in his community. He was a man of excellent character and fine mental attainments, and his presence in Jefferson Township was one of its real assets. He was a republican, but never cared to hold office. His widow still survives, and is living in Kentland and she has one of the pretty, comfortable homes of Kentland. She is an affable lady and her home is her paradise. Her son, Edgar Blye, resides with her and he is a young man and quite an adept in painting and taxidermy, as well as mechanics.

JOHN W. TAYLOR. The dignity of labor raises the farmer to a level of importance corresponding to that occupied by any class of producers. To labor long and faithfully, giving the best of one's ability and talent along any line of endeavor, is to fulfill the destiny of mankind and to make possible a happy, contented old age. John W. Taylor, one of the substantial farmers and highly esteemed citizens of Carpenter Township, is a man whose life has been one of constant industry and honorable labor, and though always busy he has never failed to find time to make friends or contribute to the welfare and advancement of his community.

A resident of Jasper County thirty-five years, John W. Taylor was born near Warsaw in Kosciusko County, Indiana, January 16, 1852. His parents were Jonathan and Catherine (Carr) Taylor, the former a native of England who came to America about fourteen years of age, and the latter a native of Ohio. John W. Taylor came to maturity in Kosciusko County, had such training as was given to farmer boys of that time and locality, and first became acquainted with Jasper County in 1873, at the age of twenty-one, but remained only a short time until his removal to White County. In 1881 he returned to Jasper County, located in Carpenter Township, and his home has been on a farm three miles north of Remington ever since. His first purchase comprised eighty acres of land, and in a few years he had paid for and thoroughly improved, and has since gradually accumulated more land and property until he is now the owner of 360 acres, is a stockholder in the State Bank of Remington and in the Farmers Co-operative Elevator at Remington. All this he has to show for his own labors, since he did not begin life with inherited wealth, and has found means through diligence and thrift to gain a competence and provide liberally for his family.

In 1874, shortly after going to White County, Mr. Taylor





married Miss Susan Alkire, a daughter of Samuel and Sarah Alkire, who were among the early settlers of White County. Mrs. Taylor died January 29, 1881, and was laid to rest in the old Alkire Cemetery in White County. It was shortly after her death Mr. Taylor returned to Jasper County and located on his present farm. There are three children by that marriage: Wesley is a lawyer at Monticello, and is married and has one child named Cecil; Earl lives in White County and has one child, Benjamin Ralph; Catherine married Charles Seneff, and they live near Etna Green in Kosciusko County.

For his second wife Mr. Taylor married Emma Matthews, a daughter of John Matthews of White County. They journeyed life's pathway together for many years until Mrs. Taylor died February 28, 1914. Her body now rests in the Remington Cemetery. There were three children by the second marriage also: Sadie is the wife of Albert Courtright, they live in Carpenter Township, and have two children named Carlin and Maurice; Estella is now her father's housekeeper; and Russell also lives at home. In politics Mr. Taylor is a republican, but has never sought any of the honors conferred by public office. He has never joined any secret order, and is not a member of any church.

JOHN F. LAWRENCE, who for the past five years has been president of the Bank of Brook, while not a pioneer is one of the older citizens of Newton County, and has made his thirty-five years of residence react to the benefit of his community in many ways.

Born near Wooster, Wayne County, Ohio, November 29, 1858, he is a son of Daniel A. and Catherine L. (Strubbe) Lawrence. His ancestors came to America from England several generations ago while his mother's family were of German stock.

He grew up and received his early education in Wayne County, Ohio. Here he chose a career of self reliance, and by hard work earned his way through the normal school at Smithville, and had experience of two terms as a teacher in Ohio before coming to Indiana. In 1881 at the age of twenty-three he came to Goodland, Indiana, and during that summer worked for Mr. Turner on his nearby farm. The winter he spent teaching school and altogether he gave about six years to that profession in Washington, Grant and Iroquois townships. He then turned his energies to farming, and the greater part of his life spent in Newton County has been devoted to the management of his extensive farming interests.

On December 25, 1885, Mr. Lawrence married Ida M. Esson, a daughter of the late John Esson, whose career is sketched on other pages. Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence have five children: Le Roy Esson, who married Mellie Little, is an agriculturist and stockraiser near Brook; Hazel L., wife of Everett D. Hess of Brook, and the mother of two children named Helen Ruth and Lawrence Elmer; Ruth A., Donald L. and Harry C., all of whom are still





John Esson      Emmeline R. Esson



at the Lawrence home. Mrs. Hess graduated from the Brook High School, also spent one year at Oxford College at Wooster, Ohio, and was then three years at DePauw University, taking the philosophical course. She is a member of the Delta Zeta at DePauw and a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Ruth A. attended the high school at Brook, Indiana, and was one year at Rockford College at Rockford, Illinois. Donald L., graduated with the class of (1916) and Harry C. a member of the eighth grade.

Mr. Lawrence has always been identified with the republican party, but looks to the qualifications of the applicant for office in local affairs. In fact he has never dabbled in politics, and has been content to exercise his individual influence. He is affiliated with the Masonic Lodge at Brook, his wife being a member of the Order of Eastern Star, and both are members of the Methodist Church. The Lawrence home is one of the finest residences at Brook. While in no sense a politician Mr. Lawrence has in many ways worked for community betterment. For four years he served as a member of the town board and was president two years, and for three years was drainage commissioner of Newton County. For three years from 1901 to 1904 he had active management of the elevator of Beaver City.

JOHN ESSON. A more praiseworthy record than that of the late John Esson could scarcely be found within the annals of Newton County. It was of such men that the Holy Writer spoke when he said: "Their bodies are buried in peace but their names live for evermore. The people will tell of their wisdom and the congregation will show forth their praise."

For more than thirty-five years he had his home in Newton County. He was born in North Hamptonshire, England, August 21, 1844, a son of Thomas and Susan (Chamberlain) Esson who came to America in 1855 and settled in Will County, Illinois. John Esson grew up in Illinois, had a practical though limited education and was still a young man when he moved to Newton County in 1871 and located on a farm northwest of Brook. He was an active farmer and lived in the country until 1890, when he moved to Brook, where he had his home until his death on January 17, 1907.

He brought with him to Newton County a wife and small family. On October 17, 1866, he married Miss Emerette R. Park. Their second daughter Eva died in infancy, and the only other child was Ida M., now Mrs. John F. Lawrence of Brook. Mr. Esson was a republican and at one time filled the office of county coroner. He was one of the founders of the Bank of Brook. Soon after coming to Indiana he united with the Methodist Episcopal Church, and was one of its active members as long as he lived.

Such are the ordinary facts of biography. What his life meant and his influence, are best realized in a review of his career which



appeared in the Brook Reporter, from which the following paragraphs are quoted:

"Would that it were in the power of our pen to depict the life of 'Uncle Jack' as he was known to every one. Clean and upright, ever willing to help the needy, nay, not only willing but always first. In years gone by how well every one remembers that oft-time repeated sentence when there was needy or a needy enterprise lagging for want of push, 'Get Uncle Jack, he can raise more money than any half dozen men in the community.' This was not only a fact in one line but every line where assistance was necessary. And did he ask any man to subscribe more than he was wont to give himself? Never. He always headed the list with the largest sum that was found on it. We give this as only an instance to illustrate the noble traits of manhood, ready to lend succor to the needy at all times and under all circumstances.

"Taken as a business man he was connected with the Bank of Brook as its vice president since the institution started, almost with the beginning of the town. While never taking an active part beyond the directorship of the bank, he lent his executive ability in assisting it to build up a reputation as one of the strongest financial institutions in this section of the state.

"In one line will he be missed more than all others by the citizens of our town and community. He was essentially a booster, a believer in progress and progressive ideas, and there was no enterprise started in our town but what the sound and calculating judgment of 'Uncle Jack' was not sought. Still more along this line was his love for fair play and honest purposes, and his ever readiness to lend a helping hand or word of encouragement to a young man just starting out in life. Mr. Esson was a man of the broadest views on all subjects. Added not only were the interests of his home town, but the interests of the county at large, its farming advancement, good roads improvement, and all like projects, and there was seldom a time when he was not the leading official in a half dozen organizations for the betterment of the community and the county.

"A man of active life, never at rest or satisfied unless he was performing some act of charity or benefit to his fellow beings, his loss to the community cannot be estimated, and he was a man that cannot be replaced, for a lifetime shows but few that have the traits that make them a leader in all lines and hold that leadership through good deeds."

GODFREY F. SCHUSTER. Of those men who came into Jasper County comparatively poor and have acquired here the basis of solid prosperity, perhaps none is more worthy of mention than Godfrey F. Schuster, more familiarly known among friends and neighbors as Fred Schuster. His fine farm, which for years has been returning to him the fruits of honest labor and well directed management,





is located two and a half miles northwest of Remington in Carpenter Township. Mr. Schuster has been a resident of Jasper County forty-five years, and the fact that in all that time he has never been involved in a law suit indicates the peace and good will which have accompanied his residence in this community.

He is of French and German descent, and was born August 26, 1839, in Alsace, at the Village of Oberhoffen, near Haguenau. The name in its German form is Schuster, as Mr. Schuster spells it, but all the younger generation have simplified its spelling to Shuster. His parents were Martin and Magdaline (Kummer) Schuster. All of them came to America in 1848, and settled in Erie County near Buffalo, New York, where Godfrey F. Schuster was reared to manhood and gained some education in English schools. From New York State he went to Chicago as a young man, spent four years as an employee in the stockyards of that city, and while living in Chicago, on March 30, 1864, he married Anna M. Nealon. The Nealons were of Irish and English stock.

After his marriage Mr. Schuster moved to a stock farm six miles from Chicago, and after spending about six years there came in 1870 to Carpenter Township, locating on Section 23, which has now continuously for forty-five years been his home, and the center of his varied activities as a farmer and stock man.

While his hard working activities have commended him to the esteem of a large community, Mr. Schuster has special reason to be proud of his fine family of six children. The oldest, Anna T., still lives at home. Louise M. is the wife of William D. Austin, and they live at South Whitely, Indiana, and have ten children. Ophelia S. is the wife of John Farrell, of Carpenter Township, and they are the parents of nine children. Freddie is now deceased. Herbert M., who lives on the homestead with his father, married Mary A. Shide, and their five children are named Fred J., George F., Virginia A., Donald H. and Arnold L. May E. is the wife of Walter Williams, they live at Goodland, and their four children are Lucile A., Marie Ruth, Joseph and Elnora M. It was a heavy loss to this family when the wife and mother died, May 10, 1898. She was laid to rest in the Remington Catholic Cemetery. Mr. Schuster and family are members of the Sacred Heart Catholic Church, although he was reared a Lutheran. He is a democrat, and for four years served as township supervisor, though he did not seek that office and has never been eager for the responsibilities of political affairs. He is a member of no secret order. The Schuster homestead comprises 160 acres of land, and this land, with its value and its many improvements, represents what he has accomplished in a material way, in addition to rearing his family, since coming to Jasper County many years ago. He has been somewhat conservative and careful in all his dealings and at the same time has been strongly in favor of substantial improvements, including roads and drainage.



WILLIAM O. SCHANLAUB. There are few better known educators in Northwestern Indiana than William O. Schanlaub, now county superintendent of schools for Newton County. His record shows that he is by no means a routine educator, but has distinguished himself by constructive and progressive work in a number of localities with which he has been identified.

His career also offers encouragement to those who have to struggle with circumstance and lack of opportunity. He educated himself, and then took up the great task of educating others and directing the school work of entire communities.

He was born in Rensselaer, Indiana, October 11, 1876, and his parents, John and Arminda Josephine Schanlaub, are both living at Rensselaer. His father has spent his active career as a farmer.

It has been said that a printing or newspaper office is the greatest university in the world. William O. Schanlaub, besides attending the regular schools, began learning the printer's trade when a boy, and was employed at different times in all the print shops at Rensselaer. When about sixteen he began publishing a monthly paper at Rensselaer known as *The Messenger*, which he continued during 1892-93. In the meantime he had attended the common schools and high school at Rensselaer, and in 1893 he went to Morocco in Newton County to act as foreman of the mechanical department of the *Morocco Courier*, a position he held four years. For several terms Mr. Schanlaub attended the Indiana State Normal School in preparation for work as a teacher, and in 1905 he graduated from Valparaiso University.

His first work was done in the rural schools in 1897. In 1899 he was elected to a position in the grammar department in the Morocco public schools and he was elected principal of the high school there in 1901. In 1903 he was advanced to superintendent of the Morocco schools. In 1906 he obtained the first high school commission for Morocco. December 7, 1907, Mr. Schanlaub resigned his superintendency of the Morocco schools to become county superintendent of schools, and for nearly ten years has supervised the school system of Newton County.

While a democratic voter, Mr. Schanlaub has never been in any sense a politician, though he has rendered public service of the highest quality of value. Fraternally he is affiliated with the Masons, being present secretary of the Masonic Lodge, is a member of the subordinate lodge of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, belongs to the Knights of Pythias, in which he was keeper of records and seals from 1903 to 1908, and is also a member of the Modern Woodmen of America. His church is the Presbyterian.

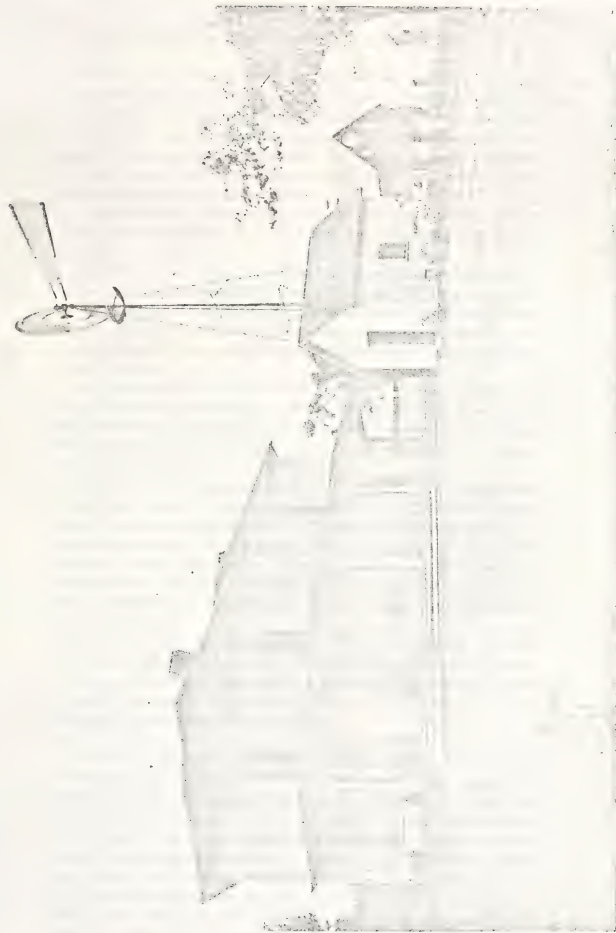
On June 15, 1910, at Chicago, Mr. Schanlaub married Edythe N. Spalding, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James Spalding. Their one child died in infancy.





MR. AND MRS. JAMES A. WHALEY FAMILY GROUP





RESIDENCE OF MR. AND MRS. JAMES A. WHALEY





REV. CHARLES W. POSTILL has exerted his principal influence on the life and affairs of Jasper and Newton Counties as a minister of the Methodist Episcopal Church, which he has served faithfully and well for more than twenty years. His interests have not been entirely confined to his profession, since he is a practical farmer and has kept in close touch with various public movements, especially in his home city of Rensselaer.

He was born at Medaryville, Pulaski County, Indiana, July 9, 1868, a son of William H. and Mary Ann Postill, the former an Englishman and the latter of Scotch-Irish ancestry.

Reared on a farm, Mr. Postill had an ambition to acquire a liberal education, and while in college paid his own way. He attended Jasper County schools, the Rensselaer High School, and in 1895 graduated from DePauw University at Greencastle. For several years he was a farmer and for four years taught school in Jasper County.

He entered the ministry of the Methodist Episcopal Church in 1895 by becoming a member of the Northwest Indiana Conference, and has filled the following posts, all in Indiana: Fontanet, 1895-97; Wingate, 1897-1903; Remington, 1903-06; Fowler, 1906-11; Attica, 1911-13; and Fair Oaks, 1913-16.

Besides his city residence at Rensselaer, Rev. Mr. Postill owns a first class farm of 201 acres five miles from that town, and of course is very much interested in all that affects the progress and welfare of Jasper County farmers. He is a member of the Jasper County Poultry Association. He is secretary of the board of trustees of the Monnett School for Girls at Rensselaer. Politically he is a republican and is affiliated with the Knights of Pythias and the Masonic order.

On September 3, 1890, at Rensselaer, Mr. Postill married Rebecca Elizabeth Richardson, who was born in LaPorte County, Indiana, and came to Rensselaer in 1886 with her parents, Daniel L. and Elizabeth J. Richardson. Mr. and Mrs. Postill had one daughter, Pauline, who died in infancy.

JAMES A. WHALEY. Of the men whose ability, industry and forethought have added to the character, wealth and progress of Newton County, none stands higher than James A. Whaley of Washington Township. A man of sterling worth of character, he has lived in this county practically all his life, and has won for himself an enviable prominence as a farmer, public spirited citizen and official, and a worker in behalf of every worthy cause.

He was born September 7, 1863, in Jay County, Indiana, a son of John F. and Ellen (Hosier) Whaley. His father was a native of Ohio. In 1863 the family came to Newton County and on the 4th of October of that year located in Washington Township. John F. Whaley followed farming as a renter for five years and then bought forty acres in Section 30, where he spent the rest of his



days. He died in 1896. He led a quiet but exemplary life, one devoted to the best interests of the community, and in matters of public welfare was especially interested in and did all he could to further the building of good roads. For many years he held the office of township supervisor. He was a staunch republican and was especially active in the United Brethren Church. He was chairman of the committee that helped to put up the first church edifice in 1869, and afterwards assisted in remodeling it. He did not live to see the handsome new edifice costing over twelve thousand dollars completed.

James A. Whaley, who was the third in a family of twelve children, eight sons and four daughters, ten of whom are still living, grew up on the home farm of his parents and lived there until he was twenty-one. In the meantime he had attended the local schools, and wisely profited by such opportunities as were given him to advance his education and also improve his ability for grasping and grappling with the affairs of real life later on. On starting out for himself he was a renter for four years. His first purchase was forty acres in Section 24 of Washington township. That has been his home ever since, but there have been many progressive steps in his prosperity since then, and it is all represented now by an estate of 563 acres in Washington Township. This prosperity was due to economy, hard work and good management. In 1904 Mr. Whaley put up his splendid country home, and the commodious barn on the farm was built in 1910. Mr. Whaley is widely known over Newton County as a breeder of Percheron and Belgian horses, and has some of the best animals of that breed in Northwest Indiana. He also keeps full blooded cattle and hogs, and he possesses special ability in the management of stock. About five years ago Mr. Whaley planted a large catalpa grove, and has added to it every year, and this plantation is one that will add greatly to the value of his land, since the catalpa is a tree of rapid growth and makes some of the best fence posts that can be found.

Mr. Whaley is also a member of the United Brethren Church in Washington Township, with which his father was so long identified, and was chairman of the building committee which erected the handsome church to replace the old place of worship. He has served as chairman of the board of trustees of the church for a number of years, and has also been superintendent of the Sunday school. He and his family are all regular attendants upon the worship in that denomination. In public affairs he served three years as a member of the board of county commissioners and was on the board when the present courthouse was erected. He has been an active republican, has filled a number of township offices such as supervisor and director of the school board, and is keenly alive to everything that concerns the real good and advancement of his township.

On March 23, 1887, Mr. Whaley married Miss Mahuldah Light.



Mr. and Mrs. Whaley have had a happy married life of nearly thirty years, and during that time eleven children have been born into their home, six daughters and five sons, namely: Mabel D., Elmer M., Ina, Ellen, Zelda A., John F., Stella May, William McKinley, Louis Maynard, Cecil L., and Laura Louise.

**CHURCH OF THE SACRED HEART, REMINGTON, INDIANA.** Of the various parishes of the Catholic Church in Jasper County, that of the Church of the Sacred Heart, at Remington, has become one of distinct importance and large influence, so that there is all of consistency in giving in this publication a brief review of its history. From small beginnings the parish has been developed to its present condition of marked spiritual and temporal prosperity, and its affairs are now under the executive and ecclesiastical direction of Rev. Joachim Baker, who has been the able and revered pastoral incumbent since September, 1915, when he succeeded Rev. John M. Schmitz. Until the erection of the present fine church edifice the title of the church was St. John's.

The first priest to serve the Catholic families of the Remington community was Rev. Joseph Stephan, who here continued his visitation from 1860 to 1870, in which latter year Rev. Anthony Messmann, residing at Kentland, began regular visitations to Remington, where he celebrated mass in the home of Timothy O'Connor, in the western part of the town. At the same time Rev. August Young, the incumbent of a pastoral charge at Rensselaer, celebrated mass at intervals in the residence of John Eck, about eight miles northwest of the Village of Remington, the number of church families in the limits of the present parish having been at that time about twenty-five. These conditions obtained until 1875, when a frame church, 25 by 70 feet in dimensions, was erected in Remington, this building now being utilized as the parish school and the same having been built under the superintendence of Father Messmann. At that time the parish purchased three village lots; in 1881 two more lots were added; and in 1903 a tract of 1½ lots was purchased, the three being combined to constitute the present parish landed property.

From 1876 to 1883 the mission parish at Remington was served and attended by the Franciscan Fathers. Rev. John Wellinghoff, O. F. M., visited the parish every two weeks from 1876 to 1879, and was succeeded by Rev. Guido Stallo, O. F. M., whose ministrations continued until 1881, when Rev. John B. Schroeder, O. F. M., initiated his successful pastoral service. Within his regime the sanctuary and sacristies were added to the original church edifice, and at this time the congregation numbered about forty families.

In 1883 the Remington parish received its first resident pastor, in the person of Rev. J. H. Werdein, who remained until 1886, and under whose administration was erected a parochial residence, at a cost of about \$700. The pastoral incumbents since that time



have been five in number, and their names and respective periods of service are here designated: Rev. Henry A. Hellhale, May, 1886, to August, 1893; Rev. M. Kelly, August to October, 1893; Rev. J. B. Berg, October 16, 1893, to July 4, 1905; Rev. George H. Hortsman, July 4, 1905, to July 6, 1910; Rev. John M. Schmitz, July 6, 1910, to September 1, 1915; Rev. Joachim Baker, September 1, 1915, to the present time.

In 1890 Father Berg broke ground for the present substantial and beautiful church edifice, which was completed under his careful supervision and which was dedicated two years later, on the 22d of July, 1901, when it was consecrated to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. The old frame church was moved across the street and converted into a parochial school building, at an expense of \$1,500. The school was opened in September, 1903, and has become a most important adjunct of the parish work. At the inception the school was placed in charge of two Franciscan Sisters from the City of Lafayette, and the number of pupils was fifty-four. The success of the work of the parish school is indicated by the fact that its enrollment of pupils now numbers 107, three sisters being retained as teachers.

The Church of the Sacred Heart has all of its activities well organized and maintained in vital and successful order, including the work of the two sodalities, for married women and young women respectively, and the Holy Name Society, the membership of which is composed of the men of the parish. There has been developed also in connection with the parish a vigorous organization of the Catholic Order of Foresters. The total number of families represented in the church membership is approximately 100, implying a congregation of about 470 persons.

Father Schmitz was born in the diocese of the ancient City of Treves, Rhenish Prussia, on the 10th of January, 1876, and was seven years of age at the time of the family immigration to the United States. After due preliminary discipline he entered St. Joseph's College, at Kirkwood, Missouri, where he completed his classical course, and his philosophical and theological courses were taken at Mount St. Mary's Seminary, Cincinnati, Ohio. He was ordained to the priesthood by Archbishop Elder, on the 16th of June, 1899, and thereafter he served as assistant priest at Avilla, Noble County, Indiana, from July 2, 1899, until the following September, when he became assistant priest of an important parish in the City of Muncie, this state, where he remained until 1900, on the 13th of July of which year he became pastor of Immaculate Conception Church and outlying missions at Auburn, Dekalb County. Of the charge last mentioned he continued the incumbent until he assumed the pastorate of the Church of the Sacred Heart on the 6th of July, 1910.

In 1906 Father Schmitz was favored in being able to make a somewhat extended trip in Europe, and it was a matter of eminent





satisfaction to him that on that occasion he was granted the privilege of audience with the revered head of the church, Pope Pius X.

**LEWIS W. HUNT.** For more than sixty years the Hunt family have been identified with that section of Jasper County included in Carpenter Township. They have led quiet, industrious and honorable lives, and aside from the prosperity which is invariably associated with the name the characteristic of sterling honesty has likewise impressed itself upon all who knew them.

For many years the late Basil Hunt held a high place in that locality. Basil Hunt, who was of English descent, was born February 27, 1830, in Randolph County, Indiana, a son of Lewis W. and Anna (Denton) Hunt, both of whom were natives of Kentucky. From Randolph County, Indiana, Basil Hunt went with the family to Missouri at the age of eleven, and when eighteen years old went to Illinois, and at nineteen, following a visit back to his birthplace in Randolph County, moved to Jordans Grove in White County. That was about 1849, and while living there he was married in 1852 to Talitha C. Jordan, a daughter of William and Catherine (Sexton) Jordan. Her parents were among the very earliest settlers of White County. Immediately after his marriage Basil Hunt moved to what is now Section 13, Carpenter Township, Jasper County. Subsequently he moved to Section 14, and at that location carried on his varied pursuits as a farmer and stock raiser until his death, on March 19, 1908, when he was laid to rest in Egypt Cemetery in Jordan Township. His wife, Talitha, had died April 11, 1898, and is also at rest in the same cemetery. They were the parents of nine children: Martha E., Oscar J., Anna J., William J., and Mary E., all deceased; Edgar B., who lives at Ashland, Oregon; Lydia E. and Lewis W., twins, both of whom are living on the old farm in Carpenter Township; and Malinda J., the wife of Frank Jordan, living in Remington.

The late Basil Hunt was a republican, but never sought any political office in the community. He and his wife were active members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Physically he was portly and strong, and possessed some decided characteristics. A man of common school education, he was an original thinker, worked out his own ideas and having once convinced himself of any fact was very difficult to move from his position. He enjoyed a considerable reputation as a public speaker, and was always a good citizen. Though somewhat high tempered he got over his anger quickly, and never had any serious difficulties with his neighbors. He was successful as a farmer and stock man, and at the time of his death owned 240 acres of land, all of which represented his hard work and good management.

Lewis W. Hunt, a son of Basil, and one of the best known farmers of Carpenter Township, was born in Section 14, Range 6, in that township, February 18, 1865. This has been his home all



his life, and since early manhood his occupations have been identified with farming and stock growing. Mr. Hunt has never married, and with his twin sister, Lydia, now owns the fine farm of 100 acres, located two miles northwest of Remington, and known as the "Balm in Gilead" farm. Mr. Hunt has made himself a factor in the forwarding of local improvements, and an evidence of this is to be found in the fact that the L. W. Hunt gravel road is one of the fine thoroughfares of the county, and passes one side of his farm. He also owns some stock in the Farmers Co-operative Elevator Company at Remington. He is a member of the official board of the Methodist Church, and his sister is also an active worker in the same church. In politics he is a republican, but has never looked for any official honors from the party organization.

**BURDETT PORTER.** Born and reared in Jasper County, Mr. Porter has here been closely identified with the basic industry of agriculture from the time of his boyhood to the present, and he is now one of the progressive farmers and stock-growers of Carpenter Township, where he owns a well improved homestead that he has accumulated through his own well ordered endeavors. He is one of the appreciative and public-spirited citizens of the county that has always represented his home, and he has here a circle of friends that is limited only by that of his acquaintances. His loyalty and activity in connection with local affairs of a public order are indicated by the fact that in November, 1914, he was elected trustee of Carpenter Township, in which office he is giving a characteristically earnest and circumspect administration. Adequate record concerning the family history appears on other pages of this work, in the sketch of the career of his father, John J. Porter.

Burdett Porter was born in Jordan Township, this county, on the 27th day of July, 1871, and he was about one year old at the time of the family removal to Carpenter Township, which has represented his home during the intervening years. As a boy he began to assist in the work of the home farm, and his preliminary education was acquired in the district schools, after which he availed himself of the advantages of the high school in the Village of Remington. He continued to be associated with the affairs of the home farm of his father until he had attained to the age of twenty-two years, when he initiated his independent career as a farmer. His prior experience of practical order, combined with his energy, progressiveness and good business judgment, enabled him to achieve success in his venture, and he has made good improvements on his fine little farm of thirty-five acres, the property having been paid for by him through his own exertions and good business management.

Mr. Porter accords staunch allegiance to the republican party, and as a candidate on its ticket he was elected, in the autumn of 1914, to the office in which he is now serving with marked efficiency and loyalty, that of township trustee. He is affiliated with the





MR. AND MRS. FRED LYONS FAMILY GROUP



Masonic fraternity, Lodge No. 337, and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, No. 58, and he accords liberal support to the Methodist Episcopal Church, of which his wife is a zealous member. His homestead farm is about 5½ miles distant from the Village of Remington, which is his postoffice address and from which he receives the rural mail-delivery service.

On the 7th of March, 1895, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Porter to Miss Dorothea May, daughter of Robert May, and the four children of this union are: Lottie C., Dorothea S. (affectionately called Dot), Helen M. and Donald Burdett. The two elder daughters were graduated in the Remington High School and the family home is one known for its generous hospitality and good cheer, Mr. and Mrs. Porter and their children being popular in the social activities of their home community.

**FRED LYONS.** A son of John B. Lyons, whose name is so closely associated with the history of Brook, and whose career as a soldier, stock farmer, banker and public spirited citizen is told on other pages, Fred Lyons has inherited many of the worthy qualities of his father and for many years has been likewise an active figure in business affairs at Brook.

He was born on his father's farm near Brook April 30, 1873. He grew up there, gained his education in the local schools, and at an early age became a responsible and active factor in his father's business. He remained with his father until his twenty-fifth year, when he went into the grain business with William Esson under the firm name of Lyons and Esson. This continued until 1903, and the name was then changed to Lyons, Esson and Light. In 1910 Mr. J. D. Rich bought a third interest in the business and the three partners have since conducted one of the largest grain buying and shipping enterprises in this section of Northwestern Indiana.

Among other interests Mr. Lyons is owner of 556 acres of choice farming land in Jasper County. He is a very practical man, progressive and enterprising, and is always ready to take his share of community burdens. He is an active member of the Knights of Pythias, of Brook Lodge No. 670, F. and A. M., belongs to the United Brethren Church and to the Haselden Golf Club and the Columbia Club of Indianapolis.

On July 11, 1901, Mr. Lyons married Miss Laura Esson. They are the parents of five children: Pauline, Gladys, William B., Fielder A. and Fred Lyons Jr.

**JACOB A. MAY.** Among the highly esteemed residents of Remington, Jasper County, there are many retired farmers of ample means, and one of these, who is rich also in the experiences of life, is Jacob A. May, who is an honored survivor of the great Civil war. Although of Southern birth his life has been preferably spent in





Indiana, in which state, he, as well as other members of his family, are well and favorably known.

Jacob A. May was born in Greenbrier County, Virginia, August 23, 1846, and is a son of George and Mary (Yeager) May. In his infancy they left Virginia and came to Jasper County, Indiana, and here he grew to manhood and has made the county his permanent home. He has witnessed remarkable changes since the days when, as a boy, he helped his brothers herd cattle on the prairie, quite often seeing herds of deer and other wild animals, long since driven away by civilization. He attended school in those days at a point about three miles north of the present site of Remington, but the schoolhouse would not compare very favorably with many of the present day. His father was a practical man and all his sons, including Jacob A., had farm duties they were expected to perform. When about fifteen years old, inheriting forty acres from his father's estate, he started out for himself as a farmer, but on every hand men were enlisting for service in the Civil war, then in its second year, and he, too, decided to volunteer, with this object in view making his way to Indianapolis. When he reached there he learned that the regiment which he wished to enter had ceased enlistment, therefore, on June 9, 1862, near Pittsburgh, Pa., he became a member of Company A, Eleventh United States Regulars. The first engagement in which Mr. May participated was the battle of Antietam, following which were the engagements at Fredericksburg, and closely after the battles of Chancellorsville and Mine Run. When the battle of Gettysburg is mentioned in Mr. May's hearing, he probably proudly tells of the valor of his regiment, which went into that great struggle 240 strong and came out with 118 survivors, even if he does not mention that he here received a wound in the side. Following this came the battle of the Wilderness and in this series of engagements he was captured by the Confederates and as a prisoner of war was taken to the prison at Andersonville and later to that at Florence. In conveying the prisoners from one point to another the captors drove the captives on in front so that no rear attack by the Federals could recapture them. It was because of this that Mr. May made a desperate attempt to get away and fortunately succeeded, and, after many hazardous adventures finally rejoined his regiment after the surrender of Richmond. Although at the time of enlistment he was little more than a child, not sixteen years old, he went through three years of army life with the courage and strength of a man, taking part in some of the greatest battles of the war. During the latter part of his service he transferred from Company A to Company B, in the same regiment. He was honorably discharged at Camp Winder, June 9, 1865.

Mr. May returned immediately to Jasper County and resumed his former interests, shortly afterward purchasing eighty acres of land, Carpenter Township school land, for which he paid \$10 per acre, and to this he continued to add until now he owns 332½ acres



of very productive land. In 1913 he moved to Remington, where he is most comfortably established, but has not entirely given up overlooking his farm properties.

On December 3, 1868, Jacob A. May was united in marriage with Miss Elizabeth Ann Ravenscroft. She is a daughter of Harmon and Mary (Pink) Ravenscroft, who were natives of Virginia. At the time the war broke out between the states, the father of Mrs. May was a captain of state militia, and in order to avoid being forced into the war against the Union, he came with his family to Jasper County and here he and wife passed the rest of their days. Mrs. May was born in Virginia, August 28, 1848, and was a school girl when her parents came to Indiana. Five children were born to Mr. and Mrs. May: Elwood, who died at the age of fifteen years; Jessie, who died at the age of twelve years; Claude W., who is a farmer in Carpenter Township; Bertrand, who is also a farmer in this township; and Artie, who died in infancy. Mr. May has never been an aspirant for political honors although his advice has often been asked and followed concerning public matters. He is affiliated with the republican party.

**GEORGE WELCH.** Although valuable and highly cultivated land now surrounds the comfortable farm house of one of Carpenter Township's most respected citizens, George Welch, it seems but a short time, in listening to his interesting story of his settlement here, when all this section was wild prairie. An honorably discharged officer of the great Civil war, when, at its close he chose this section for his permanent home, he since has pursued the peaceful pursuits of agriculture and now owns eighty acres lying two miles east of Goodland, Indiana.

George Welch was born January 2, 1838, in Hampshire, England. In 1852 he accompanied his parents, George and Sarah (Ifould) Welch, to the United States, the family settling in Onondago County, New York. In his native land he had school privileges, but after coming to America he largely made his own way in the world by his own labor. He listened to tales of the great West and at length decided to visit Brook, Indiana, starting in the spring of 1857 and reached Rensselaer, Jasper County. It was a time of high water and as the land was covered he had no opportunity to judge of its location or fertility there or chance to reach Brook, his intended destination, in Newton County. In 1860 he was more successful and was living in the vicinity of Brook when the call came from President Lincoln for soldiers to preserve the life of the nation.

George Welch did not hesitate long, for on April 25, 1861, he enlisted in Company H, Fifteenth Indiana Volunteer Infantry, with which regiment he remained until it disbanded, when, as a veteran, he entered the Seventeenth Indiana Infantry and continued in the service until the close of the war and was honorably



discharged August 8, 1865. During this long period of service he had many hard experiences for he took part in some of the greatest battles of that war, these including Shiloh, Stone River, Perryville and Selma, Alabama, and he was with that brave and soldierly body that accomplished what is known in history as the Wilson cavalry raid. Prior to his re-enlistment his valor had won him promotion from private to corporal, to sergeant and to first sergeant, and after he veteranized he was made sergeant major of the Seventeenth Regiment. It was at the battle of Selma that he received his wound.

In 1865 Mr. Welch returned to Jasper County, Indiana, and bought eighty acres situated on Section 19, Range 7, West, in Carpenter Township, and this farm he still owns. It took hard and continuous work to make this land profitable under cultivation, but that he had expected, and during his many years of activity kept making improvements until now he has one of the valuable farms of the township. In recalling old days when primitive customs prevailed in this section and neighbors were far apart, he says that during the entire first year that he lived in Jasper County he saw but one covered carriage. It was then an unusual possession and an indication of much affluence.

On January 3, 1867, Mr. Welch was united in marriage with Miss Jane Moulton. She was of Scotch-Irish descent and a daughter of Joseph M. and Eliza (Hibbard) Moulton, residents then of Cicero, New York. To this marriage three children were born: Charles A., who is a resident of Carpenter Township, married Carrie E. Johnson, and they have two children, Winona and Helen; Herbert J., who is in the jewelry business at Wabash, Indiana, married Mae Lilves, and they have a daughter, Myrtle; and William H., who is a resident of Antrim County, Michigan, near Alba, married Lenna Risbridget, and they have three children, Lola, Crystal and George.

In his political sentiments Mr. Welch has always been a republican and, taking an interest in public matters in his county and advocating public improvements of all kinds, his views, when known, met with the approval of his fellow citizens as is evidenced by his frequent elections to office. With marked efficiency he served two terms as township supervisor, was road supervisor and for ten years was a member of the township advisory board. Mr. Welch has not only been an excellent farmer, but has been a prudent investor and business man in other directions, and at present owns stock in the First National Bank of Goodland, and shares in the Newton County Loan and Savings Association of the same place. In his religious belief he is a Universalist, while Mrs. Welch belongs to the Methodist Church. He is a valued comrade in the G. A. R. post at Goodland.



· **MOSES SIGO.** In traveling through Jasper County, Indiana, a visitor cannot avoid admiring some of the fine farms that are presented to view, and when he enters Carpenter Township is sure to note the richly cultivated and well tilled land, 140 acres of which is the property of one of the representative men of this section, Moses Sigo, who, for three years, served very efficiently in the office of township supervisor. Moses Sigo has been a farmer all his life and is well and favorably known all through this section of Indiana, and has resided on his present place in Section 12 since 1891.

Moses Sigo was born April 16, 1854, in Kankakee County, Illinois, near Bourbonnais, a son of Louis and Mary R. (Taylor) Sigo, natives of St. Johns, Canada. He grew to manhood in his native county, attending school when opportunity offered, in the meantime learning to be a careful farmer. He continued to live in Illinois for two years after he had married and then moved to Benton County, Indiana, for one year engaging in farming near Fowler. From there he moved to Newton County, Indiana, and for six years carried on farming operations near Kentland, removing then to near Wolcott, in White County. Two years later he moved to the Village of Remington and in the following year, 1891, settled on his present farm of 140 acres. Like all land in this vicinity it had to be properly drained in order to ensure profitable farming, and Mr. Sigo soon began his fine system of putting down tile and through his sensible and far-seeing methods has vastly increased the value of his land. He has never engaged in any other business, from boyhood finding himself more interested in tilling the soil and urging its production of all the rich products which sustain life, than in anything else. An agricultural life has brought him health, contentment and independence.

In Kankakee County, Illinois, January 7, 1880, Mr. Sigo was united in marriage with Miss Philomene Beaudreau, who is a daughter of Cyprian and Palagie Beaudreau. Both parents of Mrs. Sigo are of French descent but they were born in Canada. A family of nine children has been born to Mr. and Mrs. Sigo, the most of whom live near home: Napoleon, the oldest, is a farmer in Carpenter township, married Lillian Lattimore, and they have two children, Raymond and Inez; Cordelia, who is the wife of John Kolhoff; George, who is a resident of Jordan Township, married Isabel Luers, and they have three children, Lloyd, Ione and Robert; Rose, who is the wife of Joseph Kolhoff, both the Kolhoffs being residents and farmers of Jordan Township; Emma, who is a Franciscan sister, is engaged in teaching in a parochial school at Memphis, Tennessee; Joseph E., who is a farmer near Goodland, in Newton County, married Eva Uhn; and Victor, Louise and John, all of whom live at home. Mr. Sigo and family are devout Catholics and members of the Sacred Heart Church at Remington. He belongs to the Catholic Order of Foresters and at times has





filled offices in the order and has served as a trustee of the church, and also of the Catholic Cemetery at Remington.

Mr. Sigo has always voted with the democratic party, and when he has been elected to office it has been because his friends believed in his honesty and efficiency and not because he sought political honors. He has been open in his advocacy of improved roads and drainage ditches, one of the latter running through his farm, bearing his name. Mr. Sigo is a well-informed man and a charitable one, is a good neighbor and loyal friend and is respected by all who know him in either business or private life.

JACOB D. RICH, long and favorably known in Newton County as a banker and grain merchant, is a lawyer by profession, but has used his knowledge of the law largely to promote his own business affairs.

He represents one of the old and prominent families of Northwestern Indiana. Mr. Rich was born April 23, 1869, at the home of his parents, three miles northeast of Goodland, and is the fourth of nine children—six sons and three daughters—born to William L. and Sarah Jane (Catterlin) Rich. The Rich family originally came from North Carolina, but William L. Rich was a native of Indiana and lived for a short time in Montgomery and Clinton counties. In 1867 he moved to Jasper County, where he died August 20, 1916, at the age of seventy-six. He was a very successful old time farmer and stock raiser, and contributed his share to the elevation of the standards of that industry in this section of Indiana. Politically he was a democrat and was a member of the Christian church. Jacob D. Rich is the youngest of the three sons still living. Frank C., his oldest brother, is now the efficient county treasurer of Newton County living at Kentland, and the record of his career may be read on other pages. Walter E., the second brother, is president and manager of the Goodland Grain Company at Goodland, a \$50,000 corporation, and is married and has three children.

In the home of his parents Jacob D. Rich spent the first nineteen years of his life. He received a good discipline at home in the work of the farm and also attended the public schools. After graduating from the Remington High School with the class of 1888 he entered the normal department of Valparaiso University and for three years was a successful teacher in the schools of Jasper County. He then took up the study of law in the office of William Cummings, of Kentland, Indiana, and was admitted to the bar in 1891. During the quarter of a century since his admission Mr. Rich has actively practiced only a few years. For a short time he had a law office in Wolcott, Indiana. He then became identified with the grain business at Foresman, Indiana, where he remained three years, and in 1904 he located in Brook.

Here he practiced law and at the same time was in the banking





*Jacob D. Rich*





*Mrs. Jacob D. Rich.*





FAIR VIEW LODGE

Residence of Mr. and Mrs. Jacob D. Rich.





business. Mr. Rich was one of the organizers of the Citizens Bank which was operated under the firm name of Rich & Stonehill until they disposed of the institution to the Bank of Brook. On leaving the bank Mr. Rich practiced law and engaged in the real estate business until 1910. In that year he became a third owner in the Lyons, Rich & Light Grain Company, and has since acquired interests in various other grain elevators in other towns.

He is largely interested in real estate both in Jasper and Newton counties and in North Dakota. He is proprietor of what is known as The Richland Farm, four hundred acres of fine land in Iroquois Township of Newton County near Julian Station. Mr. Rich and Mr. Foresman are the sole owners of the Brook Reporter, one of the live journals of Northwestern Indiana. He has other important properties.

Mr. Rich is an active member of the Knights of Pythias, the Independent Order of Odd Fellows at Brook, is a Royal Arch Mason and belongs to Brook Lodge Number 670, Free and Accepted Masons. Politically he is a republican. He does his part to promote religious and moral growth in this community and is an elder and trustee in the Christian Church, having held such a position since its organization in 1896.

On June 16, 1898, at Brook he married Miss Hattie Victoria Sunderland. Mrs. Rich was born in Newton County, Indiana, June 27, 1875, the youngest of six children, three sons and three daughters, whose parents were William Clay and Victoria (Boyle) Sunderland. Her father was a native of Woodford County, Illinois, was educated in the public schools, was often employed as a teacher of music though his main vocation was farming. He was an ardent republican and he and his wife members of the Methodist Church. Mr. Sunderland died at Brook in 1912. His wife, who was born in Bureau County, Illinois, was educated in the common schools and finished her training in the Ladies Seminary at Princeton, Illinois, and for some years after coming to Indiana was a successful teacher. She died in 1903.

Mrs. Rich's brothers and sisters, all older than herself, are: Louis A., who is a contractor and builder at Brook and is married and has four children; Clarence, a merchant at Brook, is married and has three children; Lillian is the widow of Fred R. Foresman, living at Brook and the mother of one daughter; Cora is the wife of Marcus Foresman, editor of the Brook Reporter. Mrs. Rich was educated in the public schools and in the high school at Goodland, Indiana. She is an active member of the Methodist Episcopal Church at Brook and corresponding secretary of the Welfare Club, a club of prominent ladies at Brook devoted to literature, music and art. Mr. and Mrs. Rich have one of the most beautiful and modern residences in Brook known as Fairview Lodge. A fine library of 300 volumes of choice literature attests their interest in some of the best things of life, and reminiscent of his profession and



practice Mr. Rich also has about three hundred and fifty volumes on law and kindred subjects. Their beautiful home is one of those which tend to increase a reputation so often associated with Indiana homes where a gracious hospitality is extended to all the friends that pass the threshold.

JOHN W. PHELPS. A residence for more than forty-five years in Jasper County has made John W. Phelps one of his community's best known citizens, and the honorable and industrious life which he has led has given him a substantial place among its people. As a business man he has won a substantial success, and the esteem which he enjoys among his neighbors is indicated by his varied official performances in township and county.

He is of New England stock, and his father, Henry C. Phelps, moved out from Barnet, Vermont, to Manteno, Illinois, in 1863, and from there in 1869 brought his family to Jasper County, settling in Section 33, Range 6 West, southeast of Remington, in Carpenter Township. From his farm he moved into the Village of Remington in 1879 and died there February 11, 1894. His body now rests in the Remington Cemetery. Henry C. Phelps was born May 29, 1826, a son of Anthony and Catherine Phelps, and several generations back the ancestors of the Phelps family came from Scotland. On April 24, 1851, at Barnet, Vermont, Henry C. Phelps married Marion Warden, who was also of Scotch descent. There were four children born to them. Ervine Henry married Josephine Thomas, and both are now deceased; Mark Anthony, who is deceased, married Clara Wells, and she lives in Chicago; John William is the next in age; and Lizzie Jeanetta married Thomas Vandervort and they live at Carson City, Nevada. The late Henry C. Phelps was a republican in politics, and for two years of his residence at Remington filled the office of justice of the peace, and was also a school trustee in Carpenter Township. He and his wife were members of the Presbyterian Church. At one time he owned 240 acres of land in Jasper County, but a short time before his death suffered considerable losses in consequence of investments in California. He enjoyed much esteem in Jasper County, where he lived for many years, and had the sterling honesty and integrity which commanded respect. His wife, Marion Phelps, was born November 9, 1823, and died February 10, 1905, and was laid to rest in the Remington Cemetery.

John William Phelps is himself a native of Vermont, born at Barnet, August 4, 1858. He was only a child when the family moved out to Illinois, and has lived in Jasper County almost continuously since he was eleven years old. While educated in the country and identified with farming up to the age of about twenty-five, he then moved to town and for twenty years was a successful dealer in implements and hardware at Remington. During ten years of this time he bought horses, and it is estimated that alto-



gether he shipped more than 3,500 animals to Chicago market. For the past eleven years Mr. Phelps has been in the real estate and insurance business, and has a large clientage in and around Remington.

In 1883 he married Miss Anna E. Dickman, a daughter of Peter H. and Alvina C. (Beck) Dickman. Mr. Phelps has two children, Henry and Lena M. The son, Henry, is showing his enterprise by successfully conducting the Hilltop Progressive Truck Farm at Remington. For many years Mr. Phelps has been one of the active republicans in his part of Jasper County. He has served as township assessor for the past six years, and was re-elected to that office in the fall of 1914, and has three more years to serve. In 1909 he was appointed to the town board of Remington to fill out the unexpired term of William York, and in 1911 was regularly elected to that position for four years, his term expiring in the fall of 1915. He and his wife are members of the Presbyterian Church, and he is affiliated with the Modern Woodmen of America at Remington. He has town property both in the City of Wabash and Remington, and his home in Remington is on the edge of the town, and his comfortable house is surrounded by a large tract of ground used by his son for gardening and trucking purposes.

**JOHN HUDSON.** The activities by which he has become best known in Jasper and Newton counties are those of farming and stock raising, which Mr. Hudson carries on at his farm of 270 acres six miles northeast of Goodland in Carpenter Township. For nearly thirty years he has been a hard working and prospering farmer citizen of this section, and his name probably signifies as much in the way of real accomplishment as that of any other resident of Carpenter Township.

Born in Cook County, Illinois, December 24, 1854, John Hudson is a son of George and Eliza (Gee) Hudson, both of whom were born in England, came to America in the late '40s, and spent the rest of their lives in Cook County, Illinois. It was in that county and in the vicinity of Chicago that John Hudson grew up and gained his early education. At the age of eighteen he went West to Rice County, Kansas, spent one year farming there, and then came to Goodland in Newton County, and for two years was employed on the old Colonel Straght Farm. His next location was near Julian, where he continued farming eight years, and then, in 1886, moved to Carpenter Township, locating in Section 6, where he has had his home now for thirty years.

On March 14, 1882, Mr. Hudson married Elizabeth Mather, daughter of S. P. and Julia (Conger) Mather, who were both natives of New York State and of old Yankee stock. To their marriage were born seven children. Bertha A., the oldest, is now deceased. Mabel E. is the wife of Fred Foreman and they live in Iroquois Township of Newton County. Clara B. married Arthur Clinton,



and they live half a mile west of Ade in Newton County. George M. married Nora Branson and lives in Carroll County, between Burnettsville and Lockport. Florence L. and Maude E. both live at home, while Julia, the youngest, is now deceased.

In politics Mr. Hudson is a republican, and has exercised a good deal of influence in local affairs, though he has never been a seeker for office. He has been in favor of all public improvements, and his own farm reflects some of his ideals as a business manager and has been not without value as an example of good farming management. He also owns property in Goodland and elsewhere.

**CHARLES E. MEADAL.** A young farmer who brought his wife and established himself in the fine rural district of Carpenter Township seventeen years ago, Charles Meadal since then has made his name and influence count for a great deal in the affairs of his immediate locality and the county at large. Mr. Meadal has for several years been identified with county politics, and is now a member of the county council. He has one of the fine farms located on Rural Route No. 3 out of Remington, and predicated his future on the accomplishment of the past it is safe to predict that Charles Meadal will for many years be one of the forces of progress and enlightenment in his part of the county.

An Illinois man by birth, he was born at Downers Grove, in DuPage County, October 27, 1872, a son of Charles and Lena (Hickel) Meadal. His father was born in New York State, though of German ancestry, while his mother was a native of Germany. His father has spent all his active career as a farmer, is a German Lutheran, a republican in politics, and still lives at Downers Grove, Illinois.

Charles Meadal had his rearing and early training in DuPage County, Illinois, attended the local schools there, and after those experiences and occupations common to most young men he married and immediately after that event, in the spring of 1898, came to Jasper County, locating on Section 22, Range 7 West of Carpenter Township. That has been the scene of his sturdy endeavors as a farmer and stock feeder down to the present writing.

Mr. Meadal was married in his native county to Lena Veith, a daughter of Fred and Sarah (Schweichart) Veith, both of whom were natives of Germany. To their marriage were born four children: Howard, now deceased; Clarence E., Ruth and Marion, all of them at home.

As a republican Mr. Meadal served four years on the township advisory board, and in April, 1914, was appointed a member of the Jasper County Council, and was regularly elected to that office for the term of two years in the fall of 1914. Since July 1, 1915, he has been assistant county superintendent of roads. He has been a factor in local improvements and one evidence of this is the Meadal Ditch, which runs through sections 21, 22, 27 and 28





of Carpenter Township, and which starts on the land comprised within his own farm. Mr. Meadal is proprietor of 160 acres, situated  $3\frac{3}{4}$  miles northwest of Remington. He uses his land for general farming and stock raising purposes, and usually feeds some three or four carloads of cattle for the Chicago market each year. He also owns some stock in the Farmers Co-operative Elevator Company at Remington. Mr. Meadal is a member of the German Lutheran Church, while Mrs. Meadal is a Presbyterian. He is affiliated with the Knights of Pythias Lodge, No. 58, at Remington.

**ROBERT F. IRWIN.** Now one of the prosperous farmers in Carpenter Township, Robert F. Irwin is a man whose success, which is of a large and worthy nature, has been won entirely as the result of his own well directed efforts. Coming to Jasper County at the age of twenty-two, only recently discharged from the army with which he had fought for the sake of the Union, he had very little except his industry to depend upon as a means of advancement. In a few years he married, bought a small farm, and around that as a nucleus has built up in some forty or forty-five years one of the excellent agricultural properties in the township. Throughout his career he has been public spirited in his attitude toward local improvements, and stands high in the regard of his fellow men wherever known.

His parents were William and Sarah Ann (Cottingham) Irwin, the former a native of Kentucky and the latter of Delaware. The Irwins were originally from Scotland. When a very young man William Irwin moved to Hamilton County, Indiana, and lived there until 1865, when he moved to Jasper County, and in the spring of that year settled in Carpenter Township, which was his home until his death. In early days he followed the trade of shingle making, but on the whole was a farmer. Robert F. Irwin has one brother, John A. Irwin, who lives at Brook in Newton County.

Robert F. Irwin was born August 6, 1844, in a log house eight miles south of Noblesville in Hamilton County. In that environment he grew up, and at home and in school heard and learned much of the current agitation and discussions concerning slavery, and lived amidst the rumors of Civil warfare until he was about twenty years of age, when he enlisted March 31, 1864, at Indianapolis, in Company I of the Twenty-sixth Indiana Volunteer Infantry. He went South with his command and was stationed at New Orleans and also participated in the siege of Mobile. He remained in the service for a number of months after actual hostilities had closed, and was finally given his honorable discharge at Indianapolis January 24, 1866. He then rejoined his parents, who in the meantime had moved to Carpenter Township, and soon afterwards began his career as a farmer, which has now been continuous for almost half a century.



On December 22, 1870, Mr. Irwin married Elizabeth A. Bauchert, a daughter of Jacob and Mary Bauchert, who were of Pennsylvania Dutch stock, but lived for many years in Hamilton County, Indiana. Of the seven children born to their marriage one died in infancy. The daughter Clara is now deceased. Celia M. married Levi Whitmoyer and they live in Noblesville and are the parents of four children. Julia M. lives at home. Carrie married William Pender and they live at Magdalena, New Mexico, their two children being Elizabeth and William. Walter married Bertha Bryan and lives in Powell, Wyoming. Faye L. is still at home.

In the spring of 1872 Mr. Irwin moved to his present farm in Section 16, Range 6 West, Carpenter Township, and with that one locality his activities have been identified now for fully forty-three years. He owns eighty acres of land, all well improved and cultivated, and his home is  $3\frac{3}{4}$  miles northeast of Remington. Mrs. Irwin died December 5, 1913, after they had lived together for nearly forty-three years, and she was laid to rest in the Remington Cemetery.

Mr. Irwin as a farmer has combined general agriculture with stock raising to a degree of success that makes him now practically independent. He is a republican who has usually voted for the best man in local affairs. He has himself filled some of the important offices of local responsibility, and was a member of the township advisory board fourteen years, and township supervisor one term. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church and belongs to Remington Post No. 74, Grand Army of the Republic.

GEORGE H. MURPHEY. If there is one family name more than another which the little City of Morocco honors it is that of Murphey. The town and business community are to be congratulated on the fact that one of its liveliest and most energetic merchants is a grandson of the founder of the city.

His grandfather, John Murphey, came from Ohio in early days, first settling in Lafayette, Indiana, and then moving as a pioneer to what was then Jasper County. He located on the site of Morocco, where he pre-empted 160 acres of government land. A man of great enterprise, foresight and liberality, he soon laid out a town, the first plat of which comprised only four blocks or squares. From that time forward John Murphey took the lead in promoting every movement of benefit to that community. He platted other land, and in every way laid the foundation for the present thriving city, which has its business houses, its homes, its schools, churches and is one of the best centers of trade and business in the two counties. He was a charter member of the Methodist Church, did much for the upbuilding of that denomination and of other churches in the town, and the first sermon preached in Morocco was in his residence. He was an active republican.

William Murphey, the father of George H. of Morocco, was





G. H. Murphy



born near Battle Ground, Indiana, May 23, 1831, and died at his home in Morocco, February 6, 1905, aged seventy-three years, eight months and twelve days. He was a typical pioneer of Newton County, coming with his parents to this county in 1843. He spent most of his life here, with the exception of eighteen years in Illinois. He wedded Miss Luvina Roadruck April 3, 1851, and five children—four sons and one daughter—were born to this union. The daughter died in infancy and the sons were George H., John B., Ira W. and William E.

Soon after the organization of Lodge No. 378, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, in Morocco, he became a member, and he was also a devout member of the Methodist Episcopal Church and was one of the staunch supporters of its doctrines. He was a man of the strictest integrity and honesty of character, and he inculcated those beautiful principles into the minds and hearts of his sons. The members of the Murphey family are citizens who have always been ready and willing to do their part in the advancement of all measures and policies for the upbuilding of the county spiritually, morally and intellectually. They favor good churches and the excellent school system for which Indiana is noted.

Mrs. Murphey died September 20, 1907, in Morocco. For fifty-four years, more than a half century, Mr. and Mrs. William Murphey had traveled the journey of life hand in hand, sharing alike its joys and sorrows. She was an estimable lady, a loving and affectionate wife and a grand and noble mother to her children. She was born in Warren County, Indiana, November 23, 1834, and educated in her native state. From the time she was a little maiden of twelve years she was a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

George H. Murphey, a son of William and Luvina (Roadruck) Murphey, was born in Morocco January 11, 1852. George Murphey was the oldest of the five children of his parents. At the age of twenty-one, on May 13, 1873, he married Miss Flora Frances Graves, and there was one child born to that union, Bessie L., who married Edwin Hamilton, and he is engaged in the dredge business on a large scale. Mr. Murphey afterward married Miss Stella Tombs.

Mr. Murphey has been in business in Morocco for over thirty-five years, and is one of the oldest merchants of Newton County. A number of years ago he established a partnership with Mr. Joseph Kennedy, and since then they have conducted one of the leading dry goods and grocery houses of Morocco, Mr. Murphey being now the active manager of that enterprise. He is affiliated with the Masonic and Knights of Pythias fraternities at Morocco.

CHARLES DLUZAK. Had agricultural and industrial conditions been easier than they were in Posen, Germany, fifty years ago, it is probable that that province would not have lost such worthy





people as the Dłuzaks, who came from there to the United States in 1865. The head of the family was Jacob Dłuzak. He was of old Polish ancestry. They were accompanied to America by their children, Charles, at that time being twelve years old.

Charles Dłuzak, who is one of Jasper County's respected men and substantial farmers, was born April 23, 1853, in the Village of Mlynkavo, Posen, Germany, and thus was old enough to enjoy and remember the adventures of the long journey by land and sea that separated the old home from the new. After reaching the United States the family located first just south of Michigan City, Indiana, moving from there to Porter County, and later to Momence, in Kankakee County, and from there to Jasper County, reaching Remington in 1875. The parents died in Indiana, the father surviving until September, 1914, and both father and mother rest in the Catholic cemetery at Remington.

Being strong and sturdy and very industrious, Charles Dłuzak had no difficulty in finding employment and after coming to Jasper County made general farming his main business. His father in those early days had often told of the heavy yields of grain, millet, flax, hemp and tobacco on the farms in Posen and of the green hop fields of their native land and at that time it is probable that Charles had little idea that the day would come when more than these crops would be produced abundantly on his own land and through his own labor, in Jasper County. Through hard work and excellent management he soon began to acquire land, and now owns 367 acres, favorably located, lying  $4\frac{3}{4}$  miles northwest of Remington, Indiana. He is also one of the stockholders in the Farmers' Co-operative Elevator Company, at that place. He is accounted one of the leading men of Carpenter Township, although he has never allied himself with any political party and has never sought any public office. He votes intelligently for the man he believes will best serve the people and make the community safe and law-abiding.

Charles Dłuzak was married in 1881 to Miss Katherine Ulm, of German and French descent, and a daughter of James and Eva (Eck) Ulm, well known people of Carpenter Township. To this marriage the following children were born: Justina Ann, who resides with her parents; Charles H., who is a resident of Wabash County, married Alice Carver; Lillian, who is deceased; John H. and Albert E., both of whom give their father help on the home farm; Aloysius, who is now deceased; Evalyn M., who married Labie Hill; Allie, who married Verne Peters, a resident of Wabash County; and Florence L. and Lorene M., both of whom reside at home. This family belongs to the Sacred Heart Catholic Church at Remington. Mr. Dłuzak is a member of the Catholic Order of Foresters at this place.

JOHN WILLIAM RYAN. If any citizen of Newton County deserves credit for his success won by hard work beginning in early



boyhood and a constant display of energy and close application, it is John William Ryan. He has been through all the grades of service, office boy, clerk, traveling salesman, junior partner and senior partner, and no one could justly begrudge him his enviable position in the community.

The record of his life begins with his birth at Lafayette, Indiana, on October 31, 1862. His parents, John William and Bridget (Cunningham) Ryan, natives of Ireland, came to the United States in 1854, and lived in Lafayette, Indiana, for a number of years. In May, 1863, six months after the son's birth, the family moved to Kentland, where the father was in the mercantile business there until his death on May 27, 1869, being one of the pioneer business men of the village. Bridget Cunningham Ryan after his death continued to reside in Kentland until she passed away in May, 1909. Her two surviving children are John W. and Mamie Ryan.

Six years of age when his father died, John W. Ryan spent his boyhood in conditions of slender resources and did not have the privilege of attending school after he was eleven years old. At that age he became and for some years continued as the bread winner for his mother and sister. He proved his ability and made himself useful to the prominent old merchant and founder of the town, A. J. Kent, working as clerk in his general store. He remained with Mr. Kent until the latter's death. In May, 1882, the business was taken over by Mrs. Kent, and Mr. Ryan continued under the new organization until she passed away, when the old firm was closed out. With this experience as a country merchant, Mr. Ryan then became traveling representative for Arbuckle Brothers of New York. After some years on the road he took the junior partnership in the firm of Keefe & Ryan at Kentland, and with the death of Mr. Keefe formed a partnership with C. C. Kent as senior in the firm of J. W. Ryan & Company, which is one of the largest mercantile organizations in Newton County.

At the same time Mr. Ryan has taken a public spirited part in local affairs. In 1884 he was elected clerk of the Town of Kentland. Politically he is a democrat. He is a charter member, stockholder and a director of the Kent State Bank. Other associations are with the Catholic Church, the Knights of Columbus at Kentland and the Hazelden Golf Club. On April 21, 1908, Mr. Ryan was married in Chicago to Mrs. Natalie Frailey Cones, daughter of Joseph Frailey.

**FRANK KENNEDY, M. D.** A physician is usually content to have his abilities appreciated and known in the one community where he resides and carries on his practice.

Born at Paragon, Indiana, April 17, 1879, Dr. Frank Kennedy is a son of John and Anna (Laughlin) Kennedy, both of whom were natives of Morgan County, Indiana, and of Scotch-Irish descent. Doctor Kennedy's great-grandfather was Peter Kennedy, an early



settler in Kentucky in the period closely following the Revolution, and he was captured and held prisoner for some time by the Indians in that state. His maternal grandfather, Richard Laughlin, came from South Carolina to Owen County, Indiana, as one of the earliest pioneers of that section. Doctor Kennedy's father was born in Morgan County, Indiana, in 1832, and is still living at the age of eighty-three in Paragon. He likewise has given his active career to the profession of medicine.

Dr. Frank Kennedy was reared in Paragon, attended the common schools there, the high school at Martinsville, was a student in the University of Indiana, and then entered the Medical College of Indiana, where he graduated in 1902. For a year he was connected as an interne with the City Dispensary at Indianapolis, and also spent about a year as physician in the Julietta Insane Hospital. Since 1903 Doctor Kennedy has been located at Goodland and was associated in practice with Doctor Pratt until the latter's retirement. He is a member of the Jasper and Newton County Medical Society, the Indiana State Medical Association, the American Medical Association, and the American Association of Railway Surgeons. He is also local surgeon at Goodland for the Chicago & Eastern Illinois Railway.

In 1907 he married Mary E. Hardy. Her mother is Emma D. (Strawn) Hardy, and both the Strawn and Hardy families were early settlers in Newton County. To their marriage has been born one child, Richard H. Doctor Kennedy is affiliated with the Masonic Lodge and the Knights of Pythias at Goodland. He is a director of the First National Bank of that town.

ALONZO E. PURKEY. It is not only as a prosperous agriculturist but also as a business man and public official that Alonzo E. Purkey is known to the community of Morocco and Newton County, where he has spent practically all his life. The Purkey family has been identified with Newton County more than sixty years, and all the various members have been noted for hard working ability and shrewd business judgment.

Brought to this county when a small child, Mr. Purkey was born September 13, 1853, near Knightstown in Henry County, Indiana. His parents, Clayborn L. and Sarah Ann (Carmichael) Purkey, moved to Henry County, Indiana, from Tennessee, a short time before the birth of their son. Clayborn L. Purkey was a shoemaker by trade, and after removing to Newton County in 1856 he followed that occupation in Morocco. He lived a long and useful life, fifty years of which were spent in Newton County, and his death occurred in 1906. Mr. Purkey's mother died in 1863, when he was ten years of age. The paternal ancestry is traced back to German stock and from that country the great-grandfather emigrated to North Carolina. Clayborn L. Purkey was a member of the Methodist Church and was closely identified with that denomination in





*Cynthia & Purkey*







*Alonso C. Purkey,*



Newton County for half a century. Politically he was a democrat. In a family of ten children, seven are still living, with Alonzo E. Purkey the oldest.

The first twenty-one years of his life he spent in the home of his father. During that time he acquired his education in the public schools of Morocco and on leaving home he began an active career as a farmer. He also followed teaming until 1882, and then engaged in the mercantile business at Morocco. After two years he opened a stock of drugs and hardware, and was identified with those lines from 1884 to 1893. Early in President Cleveland's second administration he was appointed postmaster of Morocco, and filled the office until 1897. He then resumed the drug business under the name Alonzo E. Purkey & Son, and for the past twenty years the leading drug house of Morocco has been conducted under that name and title.

Politically Mr. Purkey is a staunch democrat. He served as justice of the peace and for three years as a member of the school board of Morocco. In 1904 he was elected county auditor of Newton County, a position he filled until 1909, and while in that office his son, Jesse R. Purkey, conducted the drug store. An enthusiastic Mason, Mr. Purkey is affiliated with Morocco Lodge No. 372, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, with the Royal Arch Chapter and with the Council at Monticello.

Mr. Purkey was married in Morocco by Elder D. M. Johnson to Miss Cynthia Iva Roadruck, a daughter of Benjamin F. and Catherine (Stoner) Roadruck. Her parents came from Germany, first settling in Ohio, and in the very early days coming to Newton County, Indiana, where her father followed farming. Benjamin Roadruck died at Morocco April 24, 1877, aged seventy-four years, eleven months and twenty-six days. He was born in Hampshire County, Virginia, April 28, 1801. In 1807 his parents came to Carleton County, Ohio. In 1823 he wedded Elizabeth James. They settled in Warren County, Indiana, in 1829, and were among the earliest inhabitants there. Mrs. Roadruck died April 14, 1840, the mother of seven children. On May 3, 1843, Mr. Roadruck married Catherine Stoner, and she was the mother of six children.

In 1867 Benjamin Roadruck went to the wilds of Minnesota, on the homestead plan, but returned in 1875. While in Minnesota he encountered many dangers with the Indians, and he often related the incidents and hair breadth escapes from the red men of his eight years of pioneer life in the wilds. Many a time he would sit up all night long with his rifle to protect himself and family from the red men, and it was necessary at one time for him to treat with the Indians in the shape of \$60 worth of furs and other commodities to save their lives, all because of the killing of an Indian dog.

When quite young Mr. Roadruck joined the Methodist Episcopal Church, and ever remained a faithful and consistent member. Of "Father" Roadruck it can truly be said: "Servant of God, well



done." He will long be remembered as an honest and upright man, and the following lines are dedicated to his memory:

"Finished thy work, then go in peace;  
Life's battle fought and won,  
Hear from the throne the Master's voice,  
'Well done. Well done.'"

Mr. and Mrs. Purkey became the parents of ten children, and the seven now living are Jesse R., Mattie Louie Amy, Grover B., Carrie Lucile, Warren Bayard, Esther C. and Alonzo E.

The eldest son, Jesse R., is one of the leading young men of Morocco, Indiana. He was educated in the Morocco schools and graduated from Purdue University with the class of 1903 as a pharmacist. He is a High Maroon, affiliated with Lodge No. 372, A. F. & A. M., at Morocco, with the Royal Arch of Kentland, the Scottish Rite at Indianapolis and is a thirty-second degree Mason and Shriner. He is a democrat and is secretary of the Newton County Democratic Central Committee. He is a stockholder of the Rexall Stores. Mattie Louie Amy is the wife of Charles D. Martin, who is manager of the Grand Ridge (Ill.) Lumber Company. They have one son, Verle. Mrs. Martin was educated in the Morocco High School and the Kentland High School. Grover B. Purkey is a graduate of the Kentland High School and took a four years' course in Purdue University in pharmaceutical chemistry. He is now chemist for Eli Lilly & Co. of Indianapolis. He is a democrat and a Royal Arch Mason of Indianapolis. Carrie Lucile is the wife of Everett Camblin, an agriculturist of Morocco. She was educated in the Morocco schools and also received a hospital training in Chicago as a nurse. They have one daughter. Mrs. Camblin is a member of the Christian Church at Morocco and Mr. Camblin is a democrat and a member of the Democratic Central Committee. Warren Bayard was educated in Morocco schools and is now a freshman in Purdue University. Esther C. is now in the first year of high school at Morocco. Alonzo E. is a sophomore in the Morocco High School and is an enthusiast on athletics, especially foot ball.

JOHN L. COOKE. The pharmacist conducting a modern drug store, occupies a very prominent place in the business life of a community. His profession ranks with those of physician and dentist for his professional knowledge must be so complete that it will enable him, in filling their prescriptions, to detect any failure or fault that would render them fatal, under any conditions. Hence, a qualified druggist in the twentieth century is very likely to be a man of scientific attainments, and, on account of the responsibility resting upon him in the required handling of pure drugs only, he develops a keen business sense in order to protect himself and his customers. The handling of drugs and medicinal preparations is an old occupation and there are druggists yet living who can recall



when some remedies were put on the market, the compounding of which was a mystery and the component parts valueless as curative agents. Perhaps all these preparations have not yet been eliminated by the present protective laws, but, in the majority of cases a patron of a drug store may feel safe in purchasing when the druggist assumes responsibility for the purity and efficacy of the drugs he sells. Goodland, Indiana, has a drug store in which it has full confidence. Its proprietor, known to almost every resident, is John L. Cooke, who has been in this professional line all his business life, the greater part of which has been passed in this city.

John L. Cooke was born in Lawrence County, Indiana, October 14, 1857, and is a son of Jacob L. and Martha H. (Potter) Cooke. The Cooke family came to America from England and settled early in Virginia, where the grandfather of John L. Cooke, Lawson Cooke, was born and reared. Subsequently he came to Indiana and settled in Orange County and there his son, Jacob L. Cooke, was born.

In early manhood, Jacob L. Cooke moved from Orange to Lawrence County, Indiana, in which county he was married to Martha A. Potter, who was of German and Irish ancestry. Four children were born to this marriage: Mary Ruth, dying an infant; Nancy A., who married James D. Woodburn, and they live near Fowler, in Benton County, Indiana; John L.; and Della M., who is the wife of L. H. Jordan and they reside at Indianapolis.

In 1868 Jacob L. Cooke removed his family to Newton County, Indiana, but three months later decided to locate on a farm in Union Township, Benton County, situated five miles southeast of Goodland, which land he cultivated for seven years. He moved then to Fowler and in 1875 engaged in farming at Lafayette, two years later removing to Talbot. Mr. Cooke continued in business there for three years when he moved to Missouri, where he engaged in farming for two years and then returned to Indiana, in 1883 taking up his residence at Goodland. From 1885 to 1888 he resided in Western Kansas, returning then to Goodland, where he lived retired until his death, April 20, 1895. He was one of the early members of the Methodist Church at Goodland and throughout life a consistent professor of that faith. He was a member of the Masonic Lodge in this city.

John L. Cooke remained with his parents until he was seventeen years of age. He then became a clerk and student in the drug store of Dr. J. A. Lovett, at Fowler, Indiana, coming to Goodland after two years, and continued in the same line, with others in the business until 1907, when he established his present Rexall Drug Store, which he yet conducts. In addition to the full line of drugs and drug sundries carried by every modern establishment, Mr. Cooke has a large and well selected stock of specialties, and his honorable business methods, covering so many years, have contributed to his present prosperity.





Mr. Cooke was married on April 20, 1870, to Miss Flora L. Hopkins, who died September 14, 1885, without issue. On January 11, 1888, he was united in marriage with Miss Lydia A. Allen, who is a daughter of John and Nancy Allen, of Brookston. Mr. and Mrs. Cooke have four children: Raymond A., who is a resident of Indianapolis; and Pauline, Lawson J., and John B., all of whom reside at home. The family belong to the Methodist Episcopal Church.

In politics Mr. Cooke is a republican. He has been a useful, steady citizen without ever being willing to accept political preference or any civic office. He is financially independent, owning valuable city realty, and is treasurer and a member of the board of directors of the Newton County Loan and Savings Association. He is identified with no fraternal organization except the Masons and has been a member of Goodland Lodge No. 445 since 1882.

**STATE TRUST AND SAVINGS BANK.** In the days when the financiers of great nations at war, find it necessary to appeal for help to other than their own money institutions and turn to America, an opportunity arises for people of the United States to stand back and, with new appreciation, view their banks and bankers. Taking in the significance of this movement, the real, substantial strength of the country is eloquently shown and its proudly claimed sound foundation proved. The industry and thrift that enables the people to accumulate fortunes, has been ably supplemented by the business acumen of bankers, men trained in the financial field, who safely handle and invest these fortunes, thereby creating the solid basis upon which rests the great financial structure of banking.

The banking laws of Indiana, as in other states, have been considered in many a legislative session in order to assure to depositors in every department, the safety of their funds. But, while every state institution of this kind may be fully trusted under the law, nevertheless there must be preferences with the cautious investor. A bank that has wide financial connections providing for every amount of liability, and with officials whose proved integrity and high personal standing may justly be reckoned as assets, appeals to the majority of those having capital either to invest or to deposit and thereby prospers. In this class stands the State Trust and Savings Bank of Goodland, Indiana.

This institution was organized at Goodland, December 19, 1912, the officers and board of directors under the temporary organization being: John T. Hameton, president; Thomas Snell, vice president; C. O. Holmes, secretary and treasurer; and John T. Hameton, Henry T. Griggs, A. G. Jakway, W. W. Washburn, T. T. Snell and C. O. Holmes, as directors and organizers.

The first permanent officers were: A. J. Jakway, president; T. T. Snell, vice president; C. O. Holmes, secretary and treasurer; and J. F. Weil, teller, the board of directors remaining the same.



In March, 1913, R. M. Shepard was elected cashier and teller and continued in this office until March, 1915, when H. J. Brook became cashier, being the present incumbent. In November, 1914, James Bell succeeded A. J. Jakway as president. The present officers are: James Bell, president; John T. Hameton, vice president; and H. J. Brook, cashier. The following capitalists make up the board of directors: Henry T. Griggs, C. L. Constable, M. S. Foley, James Bell, George Hoover, J. G. Kinneman, and John T. Hameton.

The following is a condensed statement of the condition of the State Trust and Savings Bank at Goodland, in the State of Indiana, at the close of its business on May 1, 1916:

## RESOURCES

Loans and Discounts.....	\$ 84,265.74
Overdrafts .....	1,692.38
Bonds and Stocks .....	6,384.00
Company's Building .....	4,000.00
Furniture and Fixtures .....	1,000.00
Dues from Banks and Trust Companies.....	18,755.41
Cash on Hand .....	5,647.87
Cash Items .....	311.36
Interest Paid .....	367.47
Expenses .....	1,273.70
Total Resources .....	\$123,697.93

## LIABILITIES

Capital Stock—paid in.....	\$ 25,000.00
Surplus .....	1,000.00
Undivided Profits—Net .....	8.58
Interest, Discount and Other Earnings.....	2,765.26
Demand Deposits, Except Banks.....	76,620.31
Savings Deposits .....	1,405.46
Certificates of Deposit .....	16,898.32
Total Liabilities .....	\$123,697.93

The bank is operated with a paid up capital of \$25,000. It has proved a successful enterprise ever since its organization and enjoys the confidence and support of a wide territory. Particularly has the savings department of this institution proved popular, and the list is long and rapidly growing of those who prove by their deposits that they recognize that saving is the instrument of real independence.

CLARENCE C. BASSETT, M. D. The seeker for restoration to health, be his malady serious or of only temporary inconvenience, very naturally calls to his aid a physician, and usually, on accepting



his dictum and following his advice, is benefited thereby. Comparatively few, perhaps, ever consider the vast amount and profundity of knowledge necessary to successfully diagnose, treat and cure these various ailments under their evolving conditions, or the skill in surgery that restores injured bodily members to their normal function. This knowledge is essential but regarded from any standpoint is marvelous enough to command respectful consideration.

A prominent member of the medical profession at Goodland, Indiana, Dr. Clarence C. Bassett, came to this city in 1906. He was born June 4, 1879, at Greencastle, Indiana, and is a son of Rev. T. J. and Anna (Ridpath) Bassett. The ancestors of Doctor Bassett on the paternal side came from England and established themselves in what is now the State of Delaware, and Richard Bassett, the great-great-grandfather, was a signer of the document that made Delaware the first state to ratify the Federal Constitution, December 7, 1787. On the maternal side, the Ridpaths were of Irish extraction. The mother of Doctor Bassett was a sister of the author, educator and historian, John Clark Ridpath, and like him was born in Putnam County, Indiana. Through his writings his name is a household word in every intelligent community. Rev. T. J. Bassett, a well known minister of the Methodist Episcopal Church, is now pastor of the First Methodist Church at Valparaiso, Indiana, and during 1905 and 1906 was pastor of the church at Goodland, and is very kindly remembered by his old congregation here.

Clarence C. Bassett grew to manhood in his native state and had excellent educational advantages at Greencastle, graduating from De Pauw University there in the class of 1898. For two years afterward he was instructor in chemistry and zoology in the West Aurora High School, at Aurora, Illinois, and later, for three years was teacher of zoology and physiology in the South Division High School. When the summer vacation of 1905 came on, he spent the vacation months in study at the Iowa University and won his A. M. degree, his A. B. degree at De Pauw University and his M. D. degree at the College of Physicians and Surgeons, at Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

Doctor Bassett, after being graduated from medical college, served for three months as an interne at St. Joseph's Hospital, Milwaukee, coming directly from that field of training to Goodland, in 1906, where he purchased the practice of Dr. B. W. Pratt, the oldest located physician of Goodland, and has built up a fine practice of his own and has become a citizen valued personally as well as professionally.

On June 6, 1900, Doctor Bassett was united in marriage with Miss Pauline Woodward, who is a daughter of William and Margaret (Wright) Woodward, natives of Madison County, Indiana, but of ancestry that came originally from England. Doctor and Mrs. Bassett have two children, a daughter and son: Kathryn E. and Eugene W. Doctor Bassett and wife are members of the





Joseph Kennedy





Methodist Episcopal Church and he is serving on its board of trustees.

In political preference, Doctor Bassett is a democrat but he has had neither time nor inclination to serve in political office and is by no means arbitrary in his views, frequently, in local matters giving his support to the candidate his own judgment most approves. For two years he had been secretary of the Newton County Medical Society before the medical bodies of Jasper and Newton counties consolidated in 1914. He is president of the joint society—1916. He belongs also to the Indiana State Medical Association, and is examining physician for the United States Pension Bureau, at Fowler. In addition to still maintaining his pleasant old college memberships in the D. K. E., at De Pauw, and the Phi Rho Sigma, College of Physicians and Surgeons, Milwaukee, Doctor Bassett has other fraternal connections in which he is highly valued and which he cherishes. He is a member of Goodland Lodge No. 445, Free and Accepted Masons, of which he was master in 1910-1911; Royal Arch Masons No. 142, Goodland, of which he has been high priest ever since its organization, and Council No. 70 at Monticello. He belongs additionally to Goodland Lodge No. 141, Knights of Pythias, and is one of the board of trustees, and a member of the Order of the Eastern Star, at Goodland. For several years Doctor Bassett served as president of the Memorial Association, a local organization at Goodland, designed to see that Memorial Day be properly observed. He is a member of the board of directors of the Commercial Association. In the life of a busy physician there is not found a great deal of time to devote to recreation, but Doctor Bassett has the wholesome American's love of out-door sport and belongs to the Hazelden Golf Club.

JOSEPH KENNEDY is one of the oldest residents of Newton County. He went from this section of Indiana when he volunteered to fight the battles of the Union during the Civil war. Returning, he became a farmer. Long afterward he entered mercantile business at Morocco, and merchandising, banking and varied affairs in that locality have kept his attention down to the present time.

The Kennedy family became identified with Newton County in 1851. Nine years before on December 31, 1842, Joseph Kennedy was born in Montgomery County, Indiana, a son of David and Susan (Goodman) Kennedy. His father, a native of Virginia, moved west and settled in Montgomery County, Indiana, on a farm two miles east of Crawfordsville. That was the family home until they came to Newton County, where David Kennedy bought a place of forty acres four miles east of Morocco. He afterwards bought another tract of the same size, and was still owner of his eighty-acre farm with all its substantial improvements when he died. He was a member of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church,



a faithful Christian, and a public spirited citizen. A democrat he filled the office of trustee of Jackson Township one term.

The youngest in his father's family, Joseph Kennedy lived in Newton County until he was twenty years of age. In the meantime he acquired his education and some experience in practical affairs. In 1862 he enlisted in Company E of the Twenty-ninth Indiana Volunteer Infantry, to serve three years or until the close of the war. This regiment was recruited at South Bend, and when fully equipped was sent South to Louisville, Kentucky, and thence to Memphis. It served under the command of Grant, was sent to the rear of Vicksburg, but was afterwards brought back to Memphis and the troops embarked on a boat and went down the river before Vicksburg. When that fortress of the Mississippi had capitulated the regiment found a place in the command of General Sherman. Mr. Kennedy and his comrades fought with that great leader all the way to Atlanta, from Atlanta to the sea, in the campaigns through the Carolinas until the surrender of Johnston's army and he afterwards went to Washington with Sherman's troops and participated in the glorious spectacle of the Grand Review.

Following the war Mr. Kennedy returned home and was soon diligently pursuing the business to which he had been early trained, that of farming. After several years of renting he bought in 1870 a farm of 160 acres.

In 1867 Mr. Kennedy married Miss Mary Warren, who lived in Jackson township. She died in 1868, leaving one son, Charles W. In 1872 Mr. Kennedy married Miss Martha J. Ham. There were born to this marriage seven children, and the four now living are Ethel, Roxie, Gertrude and Hazel.

After some years of successful farming Mr. Kennedy in 1874 engaged in the drug business at Morocco. That was his line of endeavor for ten years, and in the meantime he also established a stock of dry goods as a partnership enterprise under the name of Kennedy & Schaub. This partnership was successfully maintained for twelve years, when Mr. Kennedy bought out his partner and soon afterward organized the firm of Kennedy & Murphey. That business is still the foremost of its kind in Morocco and is now operated entirely by Mr. G. H. Murphey. A number of years ago Mr. Kennedy organized the Farmers Bank of Morocco, and gave most of his time to its management and administration for nine years. This bank was then sold to the Morocco State Bank. Mr. Kennedy has one of the most beautiful residences and grounds in Morocco, Indiana.

**S. S. PETER AND PAUL'S CHURCH.** One of the strongest Catholic parishes in Newton County is now at Goodland, though for many years it was only a mission supplied from Kentland and other churches. The record of S. S. Peter and Paul's Church, furnished



by its present pastor, Rev. Anthony Henneberger, is an interesting story of growth and covers more than forty years.

From 1872 until October, 1903, Goodland was a mission. The priests who attended the mission during that time were: Rev. Anthony Messmann of Kentland, from 1872 to 1878; Rev. John Hoss, of St. Anthony, from 1878 to 1881; Rev. F. X. Baumgartner, of Kentland, from 1881 to 1883; Rev. W. Conrad Miller, of Kentland, 1883 to 1888; Rev. A. J. Strueder, of St. Anthony, 1888 to 1891; Rev. Joachim Baker, of St. Anthony, 1891 to 1896; Rev. F. von Schwedler, of St. Anthony, 1896 to 1898; Rev. F. J. Bilstein, of St. Anthony, 1898 to 1900; Rev. G. A. Zern, of St. Anthony, 1900 to October, 1903. At the latter date Father Zern became the first resident pastor of Goodland, and during his pastorate, from October 2, 1903, to August 27, 1905, did much constructive work in the parish. His death occurred at the latter date in St. Joseph's Hospital at Logansport.

From June, 1902, to August 9, 1903, Rev. Francis A. King resided at Goodland as Father Zern's assistant. From October 10, 1905, to June, 1911, Rev. Ignatius F. Zircher was the resident pastor, being succeeded in June, 1911, by Rev. John B. Steger, who remained to October 1, 1913, and since the latter date Rev. Anthony Henneberger has been in charge.

Some forty years ago a very small company of Catholic families lived in and about Goodland. In 1877 only eight families attended services at the mission. In 1880 a lot was purchased and a frame church erected at a cost of about \$1,000. The first parochial residence was a very old dwelling house which stood on one of the five lots purchased in 1902 by Father Zern. The present handsome church is a brick edifice, 98 by 54 feet in ground dimensions, and with a seating capacity of 400. Architecturally the exterior is imitation Gothic and the interior Roman style. It cost about \$14,000 to erect, and the cornerstone was laid November 9, 1902. The church was dedicated by Bishop H. T. Alerding July 12, 1903. The present strength of the parish is about sixty families, and it is well organized, with the various societies. Father Zircher erected the brick parochial residence on the site of the old one in 1909.

From Goodland the Catholic people of Morocco are now attended as a mission. The Sacred Heart Church at Morocco was under the direction of Rev. F. Joseph Bilstein during his pastorate at St. Anthony's from February, 1898, to October, 1900. He built the present church there in 1899. Morocco continued to be attended by St. Anthony's until Goodland acquired its resident pastor.

Rev. Anthony Henneberger, whose kindly and efficient services have won him the love and respect of all classes of people in and around Goodland, was born at Lutz in the Diocese of Treves, Germany, April 2, 1859, a son of Frank and Lucy (Gillis) Henneberger. In early youth he directed his preparations for the priesthood and when the Prussian government closed all Catholic institutions he



immigrated to America with his mother and four sisters and settled near Princeton, Indiana, in 1876. In September, 1880, he entered St. Meinrad's College, and upon the recommendation of the abbot, was ordained in the cathedral at Fort Wayne by Bishop Dwenger on June 15, 1880. From that time forward, a period of more than a quarter of a century, Father Henneberger has been almost continuously engaged in some active pastorate. On the day of his ordination he was appointed pastor at Fowler, Indiana, where he served until August 7, 1898, and was then stationed at Attica until April, 1899. From that time until August 12, 1900, he was absent from his duties on account of illness, and then returned to Fowler and was pastor of the church there until January 1, 1907. He was at Tipton from January 1, 1907, to October 1, 1913, and has since been pastor of S. S. Peter and Paul's Church in Goodland.

**MORT KILGORE.** The First National Bank of Goodland in the ten years of its history has had a steady growth and prosperity that reflects much credit upon its management as well as upon the prosperity of the town and surrounding locality which the bank serves.

It was organized August 15, 1905, and the eight men who established the bank were Dr. B. W. Pratt, Mort Kilgore, Z. F. Little, Paul Weishaar, Sr., John M. Wilson, George H. Smith, Benjamin F. Davidson, and Rufus Jacobs. The first officials were: B. W. Pratt, president; Z. F. Little, vice president; Mort Kilgore, cashier. The other men named as organizers constituted the balance of the board of directors while other stockholders at the time of organization were Robert Wilson, John Hudson and Winfield Rowe. When first organized the bank had a capital stock of \$25,000. This was increased to \$50,000 on April 13, 1908. At the present time the deposits run at about the figure of \$200,000. The officers are: James W. Oswald, president; George H. Smith, vice president; and Mort Kilgore, cashier.

It will thus be seen that Mort Kilgore, who would have to be recognized with those initials and is best known among business circles and his many friends as "Mort" Kilgore, has been identified with this successful financial institution of Goodland since its beginning. He was born in Tippecanoe County, Indiana, September 30, 1864, a son of James and Elizabeth (Dysert) Kilgore, who were of Scotch-Irish and German descent, respectively. James Kilgore offered the extreme sacrifice during the Civil war as a Union soldier, dying while in service as a member of the One Hundred and Twentieth Indiana Volunteer Infantry.

After his death the family removed to Grandfather Dysert's home in Warren County, where Mort Kilgore grew to manhood. His early life was spent on the farm, and such education as the common schools could not supply him he supplemented by a course in the Valparaiso University, where he was graduated Bachelor of Science in 1888. After that he taught school, spent three years in





the high school at Fulton, Kentucky, and in a short time in Benton County, Indiana. His real career has been along business lines. For four years he was bookkeeper for Z. F. Little & Company at Goodland, and then for eight years held the office of postmaster. In the meantime the First National Bank was organized and he has been steadily looking after the bank's business and its customers at the cashier's window since 1905.

In politics he is a republican, and is now serving his third term as a member of the Goodland school board. He is a member of the board of stewards of the Methodist Church and fraternally is present and a past master of Goodland Lodge No. 445, Free and Accepted Masons and a member of Goodland Chapter, Royal Arch Masons. Mr. Kilgore is also secretary of the Newton County Loan & Savings Association.

On August 8, 1895, he married Miss Retta Crowden, daughter of Joseph Crowden, of Goodland. Of the three children born to their marriage the only one now living is a son, Earle M., though they have an adopted daughter, Hope E.

**WILLIAM E. MITTEN.** For over twenty years William E. Mitten has filled the post of station agent for the Chicago & Eastern Illinois Railway at Goodland. He has been there so long and has represented both the railroad and the interests of the people so well that any mention of the Chicago & Eastern Illinois in that community suggests the genial personality of the Goodland station agent. Naturally he has been an important factor in local business affairs and has done his part likewise in behalf of every important civic movement and improvement undertaken in Goodland during recent years.

He is so thoroughly American that perhaps only his closest friends know that Mr. Mitten is a native of England. He was born in Sussex, England, August 7, 1857, a son of George and Jane (Luck) Mitten. They were also natives of Sussex and emigrated to America in 1875, settling in Newton County. Both are now living in Chicago, and on September 9, 1915, they celebrated their sixty-first wedding anniversary, and in spite of their advanced years, the father being ninety and the mother eighty-six, they were able to enjoy the event which was observed with many appropriate tributes to the old couple on the part of both children and relatives and their many friends.

Until he was seventeen years of age William E. Mitten lived in his native County of Sussex, gained an education in the Brighton Grammar School, and then with his brother, George, who now lives at Wadena in Benton County, Indiana, set out in the fall of 1874 for America. They came direct to Goodland, and arrived in that village with only \$1.10 between them. They soon commended themselves to several farmers in the community by their earnest working capacity, and William E. Mitten did his first



labor as a farm hand for George Hardy. Not long afterwards he was able to start out farming for himself, and followed that vocation twelve or fifteen years. In 1890 he entered the service of the Chicago & Eastern Illinois Railway as an agent and operator, was assigned to duty at various points, and on November 9, 1893, took up his post as station agent at Goodland. Under all conditions and emergencies, he has remained faithfully at his post and looked after the increasing business of the local station since that time.

On September 6, 1882, Mr. Mitten married Miss Emma N. Stevens, daughter of Abner T. and Rosalie (Bovee) Stevens, both of whom were early settlers of Benton County, Indiana, and were natives of New York and Canada respectively. A family of seven children have left the home of Mr. and Mrs. Mitten. Nora Isabelle died at the age of eighteen. Edward L., who lives in Danville, Illinois, married Mary Erb. Clarence E. also lives in Danville. Ethel M. is the wife of Charles Wilson and lives in Benton County. Harold F. lives in Chicago. William E., Jr., and E. Hope are still young and at home.

In politics Mr. Mitten is a republican, though in local affairs he keeps an independent mind and supports the man he deems best fitted for the office at stake. His own work as a citizen has exemplified a splendid public spirit. For many years Mr. Mitten has been a member of the School Board of Goodland, Indiana, and is now president of that body. He has been secretary of the Goodland Cemetery since it was taken over by the first association, and was one of the most earnest advocates of local waterworks plant. He served on building committees for the Presbyterian Church, for the Masonic Building, for the schoolhouse, and at the present time is a member and secretary of the Library Board. He is past master of Goodland Lodge No. 445, Free and Accepted Masons, a member of the Royal Arch Chapter at Goodland, is past chancellor of the Knights of Pythias, also of Goodland, and is a member of the Board of Trustees of the Masonic Realty Association. He and his wife are members of the Presbyterian Church, and he is an elder in that body.

**JOSEPH M. CHIZUM.** Practically every successful career is actuated by an earnest purpose and an energy of action sufficient to carry out definite plans of accomplishment. As a result of such policies Joseph M. Chizum has made himself one of the leading farmers and stock raisers and business men of Newton County. Since an early age he has been self-reliant and dependent, and he owes his success chiefly to the plans which have originated in his own mind and to the energy with which he has carried them out.

He is a native son of Newton County and was born June 16, 1864. His parents were Joseph W. and Mary Jane (Hanger) Chizum, the former a native of Ohio and the latter of Virginia.





MRS. J. W. CHIZUM





*J W Chisum*





Grandfather Chizum was a pioneer settler in Tippecanoe County, Indiana, locating on a farm near Stockwell in 1840. He was a successful farmer and spent the rest of his days in that community. He was a faithful Methodist and became identified with the republican party upon its organization. Joseph W. Chizum was fifth in a family of six children, and in 1856 he brought his little family to Newton County. Newton County was then a wilderness and thus he bore a worthy part in its pioneer activities. His first home was on a forty-acre tract of land which he bought in Section 31 of Beaver Township. In that one community he lived until his death in 1892. Those were years of strenuous work coupled with sound business sense, and as a result he left an estate of eight hundred acres. He was a devout Methodist and of his family of six children three are still living.

The fifth in order of birth among these children, Joseph M. Chizum has spent the best years of his life in Newton County. He received a good education, beginning in the district schools, and graduating in 1885 from the Northern Indiana Normal at Valparaiso. After his college career he spent three years in the grain business at Morocco, but has since devoted his best energies, his time and his enthusiasm to farming and stock breeding. Mr. Chizum owns a splendid estate of two hundred and twenty acres near Morocco, and altogether his ownership extends to seven hundred of the fertile acres of Newton County. As a stock raiser his reputation is based upon the breeding and raising of Percheron horses, Durham cattle and other first class livestock. He resides in the Town of Morocco.

Mr. Chizum is a director of the Farmers Bank at Morocco and has identified himself with other enterprises for the good of the county. He has served as county commissioner, and is prominent in Masonry in Morocco, being both a York and Scottish Rite member, (Indianapolis) and having attained the thirty-second degree in the Scottish Rite. He also belongs to the Knights of Pythias, Castle Hall No. 492. Mr. Chizum is unmarried and though without domestic cares and responsibilities has a large and varied business to absorb all his energies. His estate is known as The Maple Grove Farm.

**FRANK J. RETTERATH.** While Mr. Retterath has spent less than half of his years in Newton County, he was a member of a family of one of the first settlers in this county, and during the last fifteen or sixteen years has become widely known as a successful farm manager, business man and citizen of Goodland, where he is now serving as postmaster.

His parents were Peter and Clara (Weishaar) Retterath, both of whom were born in Germany. The father emigrated to America in 1848 and the mother in 1849. They both settled in Butler County, and were married there in 1851. Ten years later they removed to



Newton County, settling in Iroquois Township in 1861, where the father was one of the pioneer farmers and stock raisers. After a residence there of ten years, in 1871 the family moved to Tippecanoe County, and Peter and Clara Retterath kept their home in that county the rest of their lives. The father died January 9, 1899, and the mother on October 18, 1883, both being laid to rest in the North Union Cemetery in Tippecanoe County. Peter Retterath was a democrat in politics, and was one of the charter members of Goodland Lodge of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. He was an excellent representative of the progressive farmer of his generation. In addition to Frank J. Retterath three of his sons and two daughters are living: George J., a farmer at Colusa, California; Peter, a farmer of Lafayette, Indiana; Henry H., who is engaged in the grain and stock business at Williams, California, and all are married; Clara is the wife of Henry T. Griggs, a farmer of Goodland; and Anna is the widow of William Porterfield and lives at Ukiah, California, where she is county superintendent of schools, and she has been a teacher for forty-eight years.

Frank J. Retterath was born March 10, 1860, in Glendale, Butler County, Ohio, and was only an infant when his parents moved to Iroquois Township in Newton County. His first conscious recollections are associated with this county, but he spent his youth and grew to manhood on the family homestead in Tippecanoe County.

On February 18, 1885, Mr. Retterath married Maggie E. Lewis, daughter of Robert E. and Elizabeth R. (Brosius) Lewis, of Tippecanoe County, though they were natives of Ohio, having been born near Hamilton and were of Irish and German descent. The only child born to Mr. and Mrs. Retterath was Zoro G., who died at the age of three years.

Following his marriage Mr. Retterath was a farmer in Carroll County for five years, then spent a year and a half in California, returned to Tippecanoe County for four years, but in the fall of 1899 took up his permanent home in Newton County, locating in Grant Township just at the edge of the Town of Goodland. Since then his main activities have been as a farmer, and he conducts the Pine Grove Farm of 100 acres just northwest of Goodland. He has made a great success of his operations on this farm, and has a reputation of doing well in every undertaking.

On March 10, 1914, he was appointed postmaster of Goodland, and has been on duty in the office since April 1st of that year. He also owns some stock in the State Trust & Savings Bank and in the Newton County Building & Loan Association. He is a believer in fraternalism, and is affiliated with the lodge of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows at Delphi, with the Masonic Lodge at Goodland, and is a past chancellor of Goodland Lodge of the Knights of Pythias.



**ADELBERT C. JAKWAY.** As a quiet, energetic, conservative citizen Adelbert C. Jakway has exercised no little influence in the business life of Newton County for the past forty years. He recently retired from the grain business at Goodland, and a few years ago ill health obliged him to give up his active work as a local banker. His name stands for all that is substantial and honorable in the business life of this community.

Having reached the age of three score and ten, Mr. Jakway is well justified in taking life somewhat leisurely. He was born August 10, 1827, in Westfield, Vermont, and is of old Yankee stock on both sides. His parents were George A. and Julia A. (Cook) Jakway, natives of the Green Mountain State. Mr. Jakway was reared in Vermont, attended school there, and possesses many of the rugged characteristics of the typical Vermonter. He followed farming and lumbering while he lived in his native state, but in March, 1875, he came to Indiana and settled on a farm two miles west of Goodland in Grant Township. That was his home until 1884 when he moved out to Dakota Territory and settled in Hand County and lived in that new and undeveloped district in the Northwest for eleven years. His affairs continued to prosper while there, and on returning to Goodland he engaged in the grain business as senior member of the firm of Jakway & Murray. From this he retired in 1914. Mr. Jakway was also one of the organizers of the State Trust & Savings Bank of Goodland and was its first president, but resigned the office on account of ill health. Among other interests he owns considerable farm land in Cass County, Indiana. These accumulations have been the direct result of his steady industry and thrifty management and he has an ample competence for all future needs.

In 1874 he married Mary E. Hulett, a daughter of Philander E. Hulett, of New York State. The one child of this union, Bernice A., is now Mrs. Fay E. Burgess, and they live in Grant Township. Mr. Jakway married for his second wife Susan A. Hulett, a sister of his first wife. There are two children by this union: Marian A., wife of Raymond Hall, their home being in Chicago; and Hope E., who lives at home.

In politics Mr. Jakway is a democrat. He served as a member of the local school board from 1900 to 1903 and is a past master of Goodland Lodge No. 445, Free and Accepted Masons. He also belongs to the Royal Arch Chapter at Goodland.

**WILLIAM J. STEWART.** A successful business and public spirited citizen, William J. Stewart has been identified by residence with Goodland for over thirty years. He began his career as a worker for others, and by industry and ability became master of his own circumstances, and now for many years has handled some extensive interests, in farming and farm lands, and in local business enterprises at Goodland.



For fully forty-five years the family has been identified with Jasper and Newton counties. His parents, Joseph and Mary (Johnson) Stewart, were both born in Ohio and came to Jasper County in 1870, and from Jasper moved to Goodland in Newton County in 1883. Joseph Stewart was a man of very effective industry and followed the quiet pursuits of the farmer until his retirement, when he moved into Goodland, and died there November 27, 1903. In politics he was a republican without any political aspirations, and was a member of the Masonic Lodge at Remington. He and his wife became the parents of twelve children, and the three now living in Jasper and Newton counties are all at Goodland, namely: Catherine, wife of Charles Griffen; William J.; and Joseph L.

William J. Stewart was born October 19, 1869, while his parents were residing at Chillicothe, Missouri. However, when he was about twelve months old they returned east and settled in Jasper County, and practically all of his own lifetime has been spent either in Jasper or Newton counties. He was about fourteen when the family moved to Goodland. He made good use of all the educational opportunities presented to him, and before reaching his majority was able to do a man's full share of work on a farm. Farming, however, has been only one of his varied activities. For fifteen years he managed the Goodland tile factory. For the last fifteen years or more he has operated the Stewart ice plant. Mr. Stewart owns a fine tract of 240 acres of land adjoining the Town of Goodland, and gives his active supervision to its cultivation and management. He also has some town property, and his prosperity is the more creditable for the fact that it was won entirely by his individual efforts. He also has stock in the State & Trust Bank at Goodland.

In 1885 he married Miss Ada M. Hoover, daughter of John and Harriet (Smith) Hoover. Mr. Stewart has given much of his time and attention to local affairs at Goodland. For six years he was treasurer of the school board, and for the past eight years has been president of the town board and in many ways has advanced the standards of municipal service and improvements. Fraternally he is affiliated with the Knights of Pythias at Goodland.

YOUNG D. DEARDURFF. One of the oldest and most honored family names in Newton County is that of Deardurff. Mr. Young D. Deardurff, who was named in honor of his two grandfathers, has found both a congenial and profitable pursuit in farming enterprise and for the past twenty years has been successfully identified with that industry in Washington Township. In that time he and his good wife have surrounded themselves with all the things necessary to make life attractive in the country. They have a fine home, with a good complement of other buildings, and their farm means not only a comfortable living but a wholesome place in which to







MR. AND MRS. YOUNG D. DEARDURFF



rear their children and to indulge their taste for hospitality and neighborliness.

Mr. Deardurff is a son of John S. and Rachel A. (Thompson) Deardurff. His father was born in Indiana and the grandfather Deardurff was born in Pennsylvania and brought his family in 1842 to Newton County. That was one of the earliest years in the settlement of this section of Northwest Indiana. Grandfather Deardurff located on a farm where Morocco lies in Newton County, and in 1886 he removed to Kentland, which was his home for twenty years until his death. He had ten children.

The father of Young D. Deardurff was eighteen years of age when the war broke out and he volunteered his services for the defense of the Union. His first enlistment was for three months and he afterwards re-enlisted and was with the army of the Tennessee and afterwards with the troops commanded by the famous General Sherman during the Atlanta campaign on the march to the sea. He was a fine soldier, always on duty, and left the army with an honorable discharge and record which his descendants will always cherish. After he returned to Newton County he engaged in farming. In 1865 he married, and after his marriage bought land and prosecuted farming in Beaver Township until 1894. In that year he removed to Morocco for two years, then locating on a farm in Washington Township, and that was his home until his death in 1904. His wife passed away in 1912. The father was an active member of the United Brethren Church, belonged to the Grand Army of the Republic, to the Masonic Order and in politics was a republican. He was a successful farmer and a model and upright citizen.

Young D. Deardurff was the second in a family of six sons all of whom are living. His education was acquired in Newton County, and up to the age of twenty-one he worked at home and was thus trained to a career which he has followed so successfully since his marriage.

On January 3, 1896, at Morocco, he married Miss Gertrude Martin. Her mother's people were among the pioneers of Newton County. Mrs. Deardurff was educated in the common schools, and for six years prior to her marriage was a successful and popular teacher in Newton County. She was born in Newton County May 10, 1873, the eldest of six children, four sons and two daughters, born to William H. and Mary (Ash) Martin. All the children are living at the present time: Mrs. Deardurff; Adell, wife of Joseph Thornton of Chicago and they have four children; Austin is also a resident of Chicago and is married; William is next; Ralph is a resident of North Dakota, is an agriculturist, is married and has three children; and Orpheus is a resident of Newton County. Mr. Martin, the father, was a native of Virginia and an agriculturist, and it was about the year 1838 that he came to Indiana. He was a soldier in the Civil war and after his term of service he came to Newton



County. He was a Mason. He died in LaBayette, Indiana, in 1905. Mrs. Martin was a native of Indiana and died 1893. Mrs. Deardurff is an active member of the Baptist Church. Mr. and Mrs. Deardurff have two sons: Lloyd, who is now in the third year of the Morocco High School, and Raymond, in the fourth year of the Morocco High School. Mr. and Mrs. Deardurff will give their sons the benefit of good education, fitting them for practical life.

After his marriage Mr. Deardurff began farming, and eventually bought 277 acres of land in Washington Township. That land he has made productive and valuable in every sense of the term, and has not only gained a good living from it for his family, but has raised it to the best standards of improvement and productivity among similar farms in this county.

At the same time Mr. Deardurff has willingly given his time and energies to the benefit of his fellow citizens. He has twice served as a member of the advisory board of Washington Township and is still on that board. In 1910 he was elected one of the county commissioners, and during his service of three years constantly studied the needs of the county at large and made himself a valuable advisor and an earnest exponent of the welfare of the county. He is in politics a republican. He is affiliated with the Camp of the Modern Woodmen of America of Morocco, Indiana.

**HUGH MURRAY.** Now serving as town treasurer of Goodland, Hugh Murray has been more or less continuously identified with Newton County for the past forty-five years. Men who know him in a business way have the utmost confidence in his integrity and reliability. He has shown much energy in everything he undertakes and has built up a very profitable business as a grain dealer and elevator man at Goodland.

Though much of his life has been spent in this section of the Middle West, Hugh Murray was born in Pictou County of Nova Scotia, September 8, 1845, a son of John and Christina (McLeod) Murray. His father was a native of Highland, Scotland, near Inverness, and his mother of Nova Scotia. In that province of Canada Hugh Murray spent his childhood and youth, attended the schools in the winter and employed his energies in varied capacities until he was eighteen. In October, 1863, he came to the United States and located in LaSalle County, Illinois, where for several years he had no trouble in placing his services as a farm hand. From there he came to Grant Township in Newton County in 1870 and lived there about twelve years. In 1882 Mr. Murray went to South Dakota, engaged in the elevator business, and for a time was in the same line of enterprise at Chicago. In 1896 he returned to Goodland and established the elevator company which is now known as H. Murray & Company, grain elevator.

Mr. Murray married Mrs. Mary A. (Wilsey) Green, who was born in the State of New York, and was sixteen years of age when



she became a resident of Indiana. She received the benefits of a good educational training, and was a teacher in the Newton County schools. Her parents are deceased. Her first marriage was to H. H. Green, and they had one daughter, Daisy, who is married. Mrs. Murray is a devout member of the Presbyterian Church at Goodland, and she has always been interested in the Sunday school work of her church.

In politics Mr. Murray is independent, a voter for the best man regardless of party ties, and is now serving his second term and third year as town treasurer of Goodland. Mr. Murray is a quiet and efficient business man, and has never been disposed to seek public position, nor to concern himself greatly with affairs which were not his own. He is a member of the Presbyterian Church, and is affiliated with Goodland Lodge No. 445, Free and Accepted Masons.

<sup>6</sup> JOHN G. KINNEMAN, M. D. It is through his work and service as a physician and surgeon that Doctor Kinneman is chiefly known to the people of Goodland and Newton counties. During the past eighteen years he has enjoyed an exceptionally large practice in this community, and while he has had little ambition to excel except in his chosen sphere of work, he has naturally been brought more or less to active relations with business and civic affairs in his home town of Goodland.

It is a fact in which Doctor Kinneman takes some degree of pride that both he and his wife, their respective parents, and all their children, were born in Indiana. The Kinnemans were among the older families of Virginia, where they settled about 1680, coming originally from Germany, where the name was spelled Kuhnymann. It has been found that practically all the Kinnemans now found in America trace their descent from one ancestor.

Doctor Kinneman is a native of Cass County, Indiana, and his people were among the very early pioneers in that section. His parents were William B. and Lucy N. (Short) Kinneman, who were also natives of Cass County. William B. Kinneman was born May 5, 1832, in Clinton Township of that county, and died February 18, 1914, his body being laid to rest at Mexico, Indiana. His parents were Thomas and Elizabeth (Bennet) Kinneman, who came from Central Ohio to Cass County during the decade of the '20s. Thomas was one of the pioneers in the rural district of Cass County, and William B. Kinneman also followed farming as his vocation. In other branches of the Kinneman family are found a number of physicians. It was on the old Cass County homestead that Doctor Kinneman grew to manhood. While at home he attended the local schools, and through his own efforts managed to acquire a liberal education. At different times he was a student in the Central Normal at Danville, Indiana, in the American Normal at Logansport and in the Marion Normal. Like many men who have made a





success of the profession he was a teacher for a number of years. He taught three years in Cass County and three years in Miami County, and for three years was superintendent of schools at Burnettsville, in White County. From the Medical College of Indiana at Indianapolis, Doctor Kinneman graduated M. D. with the class of 1898. He at once came to Goodland and opened his office and during the first year of practice his income was \$351. He had come to Goodland \$700 in debt on account of the expenses of his education, but in two or three years he was well established in the confidence and patronage of the public, and has been very successful from the financial standpoint.

On September 16, 1896, while still attending college Doctor Kinneman married Neva Ione Moore, daughter of Dr. John W. and Elizabeth (Keesling) Moore. Her parents were both born in Henry County, Indiana, where their respective families were pioneer settlers. Dr. John W. Moore's father, Philip Moore, founded the Town of Mooreland in Henry County. The Moores were of German descent several generations back. Through the Keeslings Mrs. Kinneman is eligible to membership in the Daughters of the American Revolution. Doctor and Mrs. Kinneman have in their possession three old parchment deeds, which were given her maternal ancestor, John Keesling. These deeds were executed under the hand and seal of President Andrew Jackson, and bear the following dates: Two dated August 5, 1834, and one, April 17, 1833. These are valuable heirlooms in their home, and they also have an old Bible published in 1837, and the engravings are of the old wood cuts. To their marriage have been born two children: Doris, now a student in Earlham College at Richmond, Indiana; and John, attending high school.

In politics Doctor Kinneman is a republican of the stalwart type, and has always greatly admired the vigorous leaders of that party who have made and moulded American history in the past half century. He is affiliated with Goodland Lodge No. 445, Free and Accepted Masons, and with Goodland Lodge of the Knights of Pythias. In the line of his profession he is a member of the Jasper & Newton County Medical Society, the Indiana State Medical Association, and the American Medical Association. He is one of the principal stockholders of the State Trust & Savings Bank of Goodland. His business success has always been accompanied by a very liberal and generous conduct toward those less fortunate than himself and in many ways he has helped to promote the welfare of his home town.

JESSE W. BOND, D. D. S. Not only in his profession as a dentist but also as a well to do business man and citizen is Doctor Bond known in Newton County, where he has resided since early infancy. He enjoys a large practice, is very popular in social circles, and whatever he undertakes he does thoroughly and carefully.



A son of George F. and Sarah (Bartoo) Bond, he was born at Plainfield, Illinois, January 5, 1871. His father was of English descent and a native of the State of Maine, while the mother was born in New York, and among her direct ancestors was the noted Ethan Allen, the hero at Fort Ticonderoga during the Revolution. George F. Bond was a Union soldier during the Civil war, being with Company L of the Illinois Light Artillery, and he did not live many years after he returned from the service, dying in Illinois, December 1, 1871. Not long afterward, when Doctor Bond was still a child, the mother brought her little family to Jasper County, settling near Remington.

It was on a farm in Carpenter Township that Doctor Bond spent his early youth. He attended the Remington High School, and subsequently entered the Ohio College of Dental Surgery at Cincinnati, where he graduated D. D. S. with the class of 1895. He has now practiced successfully in Newton County for more than twenty years. Besides his large clientele as the leading dentist at Goodland he owns a good farm in Carroll County.

On April 9, 1903, he married A. Velma Clymer, a daughter of Doctor Keever and Rezina Ann (Black) Clymer of Goodland. To their marriage have been born three children: Keever C., Rezina A. and Willo Jean.

Doctor Bond has always voted the republican ticket but has no political aspirations. He and his wife are members of the Presbyterian Church, and he is affiliated with both the Masonic Lodge No. 445 and the Royal Arch Chapter at Goodland. He is also a member of the Hazelden Golf Club.

**JOHN COCHRANE, SR.** With a long and honorable career of industry and practical achievement, John Cochrane, Sr., has already celebrated his seventy-fifth birthday, and for more than ten years has enjoyed the comforts of a good home and the leisure of retirement at Goodland. While relieved of business responsibilities, Mr. Cochrane is as alert and vigorous in matters of local citizenship as he ever was. Many local people will recall that he was the leader in the movement which drove the saloons out of Goodland. He and his wife have children and grandchildren about them and in homes of their own, and they can take an enviable satisfaction in reviewing the many years that lie behind them.

The fact that John Cochrane is a Scotchman by birth might indicate to many people a reason for his vigorous and independent citizenship. He was born at Dunlop in Ayrshire July 21, 1839, a son of John and Mary (Wylie) Cochrane. In 1853 all the Cochrane family came to America and settled in La Salle County, Illinois. The father died there January 12, 1868, at the age of fifty-six and is laid to rest in Waltham Cemetery. The mother later went out to Missouri to live with a daughter, and died there.

Mr. John Cochrane was about fourteen years of age when he



came to America. Up to that time he had lived in his native shire, so intimately associated with the life and poetry of Robert Burns, and had attended such schools as were open to him. From the age of fourteen he lived in La Salle County, Illinois, and made that locality his home until 1869, when he came to Indiana and located in Union Township of Benton County. His farm was not far from Goodland, and for many years that town has been his chief market center. As a farmer and stock raiser Mr. Cochrane steadily prospered and continued to direct his own affairs there for thirty-four years. In 1903 he retired into Goodland and he and his wife have one of the comfortable homes of that village.

On October 24, 1864, he married Mary E. Richards, a daughter of John and Johanna (Sheahan) Richards. Her father was a native of England and her mother was born in the State of Maine and of Irish stock. To Mr. and Mrs. Cochrane were born eight children, four of whom died in infancy. Janet C. is the wife of Charles Fagan, who is superintendent of the Cascade School, in Seattle, Washington, and they have one son, Charles. Robert, who lives in Goodland, married Emma Summers, and their children are Walter L., Karl, John (deceased), and Mary E. Addie B. married Edward Strubbe, and they live in Union Township of Benton County and have a child named Hazel E. John, Jr., lives with his family on the old homestead in Union Township of Benton County, the place being known as the Maple Grove Farm; by his marriage to Jeanetta Wild he has five children: John A., Russell W., Mary E., Malcom B. and Janet E., the last being now deceased.

Mr. Cochrane has never identified himself actively with any political party, though for twenty years he has been a steadfast worker for the prohibition cause. He and his wife are both devout Presbyterians, and he has served as a ruling elder in the Goodland church of that denomination for forty-six years. Besides some property in town, including his own home, Mr. Cochrane owns about 240 acres of land near Goodland in Benton County. In his effort to live a good, honest, straightforward life, there are a host of friends who would say that Mr. Cochrane has been as successful as any man in Newton County.

CHARLES E. SAGE. Nearly sixty years have passed since the Sage family was established in Jasper County, and since then the name has been represented here by both men and women of sterling character and usefulness in all their relations.

The founder of the family in this section of Indiana was George W. T. Sage, who was born in Kentucky, a son of Alexander Sage. George Sage came to Jasper County in 1856. On March 4, 1858, he married Mary Jane Harris, who was born in Baltimore County, Maryland, a daughter of Thomas and Mary Harris, who were also natives of Maryland, but of Pennsylvania Dutch descent. Eight children were born to George and Mary Sage, namely: Mary E. K.,



who married John Eek and lives in Carpenter Township; one that died in infancy; Howard E., now deceased; Warren W.; Charles E.; John W., who lives in Goodland; and William A. and Ollie M., both deceased. The father of these children died February 19, 1875.

One of the sons is Warren W. Sage, who has a fine farm home in Milroy Township,  $6\frac{1}{2}$  miles southeast of Rensselaer. Warren was born in Jordan Township of Jasper County March 19, 1864, and has spent practically all his life in Jasper County, though for five years he was located near Breckley, in Ford County, Kansas, during the late '80s. Farming and the raising of stock has supplied him with opportunities and his prosperity is represented by the ownership of 490 acres of land.

On October 10, 1886, Warren Sage married Orpha M. Farmer, daughter of George W. and Matilda (Macy) Farmer, both of whom were natives of Indiana. Of the six children born to their marriage one died in infancy, and the other five are: Estella; Loren C., who married Lenore Hefft, and lives in Milroy Township; Lois, Albert W. and Harold M., all living at home. In politics Warren Sage is a democrat though in local affairs he votes for the best man, and he himself has no political aspirations. Both he and his wife are members of the Church of God, and take much part in the affairs of their home church.

The late Charles E. Sage, whose career added to the honorable associations connected with this name in Jasper County, was born September 1, 1866, in Jordan Township, Jasper County, a son of George and Mary J. (Harris) Sage. He grew to manhood on the old homestead farm, but when about nineteen years of age went west, and altogether spent some eleven years in Kansas and Colorado. For three years he taught school in Kansas, part of the time in the high school at Dodge City. He was also in the brick business for a while, and followed the same line after removing to Pueblo, Colorado, in 1888. He was at that time twenty-two years of age, and from that time until the close of his life was exceedingly active and energetic in everything he undertook.

On December 11, 1890, Mr. Sage married Miss Katie Hynds, a daughter of John and Jane (Littlejohn) Hynds, all of whom were born in Scotland and came to this country in 1871, settling first in Will County, Illinois, and later moving to the vicinity of Dodge City, Kansas. Mrs. Katie Sage, who since the death of her husband has shown exceptional business ability in managing the home farm, is the mother of seven children, one of whom died in infancy. The other six are: George E., Russell H., Raymond W., Mary E., Jeannie E. and Ruth N.

After his marriage Charles E. Sage resumed his work as a teacher, and spent four years in that vocation at Overton, Colorado. After that for six months he was identified with the brick business in Colorado Springs, and then brought his family back to Indiana and took up farming. It was as a farmer and also as a teacher that





he was subsequently known in Jasper County until his death, which occurred August 12, 1913. There was a host of friends to mourn the passing of this vigorous and excellent citizen, and followed his remains to their last resting place in the Egypt Cemetery.

Mr. Sage was a democrat, and while living at Overton, Colorado, was an unsuccessful candidate for the office of county superintendent. He always took more or less active interest in politics, and in Jasper County served as township trustee four years. He was much in favor of all public improvements, and was one of the active organizers and president of the Farmers Mutual Telephone Company which built the line connecting with the Exchange at Brook. He and his wife both were members of the Church of God, and he had been a loyal and working Christian since the age of fifteen. Mr. Sage at the time of his death owned 320 acres of land, and this fine farm is now being well conducted by Mrs. Sage and the children. Mrs. Sage has always done perhaps more than the usual part of a woman both at home and outside of her home. She is an active church worker, has usually taught in Sunday school, and after she and her husband came back to Indiana she became a loyal helper to him in establishing a home and looking after the interests of the farm. Mr. Sage for some time continued school teaching after his return to Indiana, and for four years taught in the Schutte School in Newton County, and for two or three years in other district schools.

**ZIBA F. LITTLE.** The people of Goodland have long looked upon Ziba F. Little as one of the community's best upbuilders. A long number of years ago he established a store which has been developed and carried on in progressive fashion to the present time, though he is no longer actively identified, having turned the management over to his son. In many other ways he has fitted into the life of the community and has well earned all the comforts and pleasures of retirement.

A son of Clark S. and Sarah A. (Van Scoy) Little, Ziba F. Little was born in Prairie Township of White County, Indiana, August 18, 1850. The Little ancestry was English while the Van Scoys were Holland people originally. Clark S. Little was born in Ohio, while his wife was a native of Virginia, and when quite young they moved to White County and were there at a time when little development had been done, and they bore their full share of pioneer responsibilities. When Ziba F. was about ten years of age his father moved to Brookston and engaged in the general merchandise business there for some fifteen or twenty years. He was born February 8, 1828, and died at Brookston in January, 1899.

Having gained his education in the schools of Brookston, Ziba F. Little at the age of eighteen left home and was employed as a telegrapher and station agent by the Pennsylvania Railroad Company at Reynolds and Goodland. It was through his railroad service



that he first became identified with Goodland, but in 1877 he left the railroad and started a store, with a modest capital and with only his personal integrity and enterprise to commend him to prospective patrons. Out of this has been developed the large general store of Z. F. Little & Company, long recognized as one of the most prosperous business establishments of Newton County. Mr. Little still employs much of his time in the store, attends to many details, though he no longer considers his daily presence there absolutely necessary. For a good many years he worked early and late, and has fully earned all the prosperity which has rewarded his efforts. His son Harry is now president of the company and active head of the store.

In 1875 Mr. Little married Anna Miner, daughter of Harley and Anna B. (Cole) Miner, of Goodland. Two children have been born to their union, Harry and Ruby. Harry F., who is president of the Z. F. Little & Company, married Ethel Rider, and they have a child named Lulu. Ruby M. is now the wife of John W. Hinchman, and their one child is named Evaline.

In politics Mr. Little has voted the republican ticket ever since gaining his majority. For several years he was a member of the county council, served as town trustee for two or three years, and has made himself an active factor in all public improvements. He is a past master of Goodland Lodge No. 445, Free and Accepted Masons, a member of the Royal Arch Chapter at Goodland, and is a past master of the Knights of Pythias Lodge in the same village. Both he and his wife are active members of the Methodist Church. Mr. Little is a director of the First National Bank of Goodland, and served as its vice president for several years until ill health made it necessary for him to retire.

**AUGUSTUS DWIGHT BABCOCK.** One of the scholarly members of the Newton County bar, Augustus Dwight Babcock, lawyer and author, has had a most varied experience, and is not only known as a legist, author and student of literature, but in the more prosaic field of business, having one of the largest farm insurance agencies in this section, located at Goodland. Mr. Babcock was born September 28, 1852, on a farm three miles south of Rensselaer, in Marion Township, Jasper County, Indiana, and is a son of Augustus Dorr and Abigail (Ilf) Babcock.

The Babcock family originated in England, and its first American progenitor, one James Babcock, is found in the annals of Rhode Island prior to the Revolutionary war. From him have descended men who have achieved prominence and eminence in the various walks of life, men bearing the name having fought in every American war, and particularly in the Revolutionary war and the War of 1812. Nathan Babcock, the grandfather of Augustus D. Babcock, was born in New York State, from whence he came to Indiana, settling during the '40s in Carroll County, near Delphi. About the



year 1848 the family moved to Jasper County and settled in Marion Township, near Rensselaer, where Nathan Babcock died August 14, 1874, being laid to rest in Crockett Cemetery, four miles southeast of Rensselaer. Augustus Dorr Babcock was born in New York and accompanied his father to Indiana, where he passed his short career in farming, his death occurring October 11, 1858, when he was but twenty-six years, eleven months of age. Like his father, he was buried in Crockett Cemetery. He married Abigail Hiff, a daughter of William and Hannah Hiff, natives of Preble County, Ohio, of English descent, and they became the parents of three children: Augustus Dwight; Ruby Alice, who married White A. Harbison and lives at Kentland; and Addie Bell, the wife of Charles Lampson.

Augustus Dwight Babcock was six years of age when his father died, and following that event he was taken to Rensselaer by his mother, who three years later married Mount Etna Jordan, the family then moving to near Remington and settling on a farm. While working on farms in Carpenter and Jordan townships, Mr. Babcock secured a common school education, but his ambitions were beyond the humdrum life of the agriculturist, and when he reached his majority he began to teach school, a vocation which occupied his energies for ten years, six years of this time being passed in Grant Township, Newton County. In this period, when he could find the leisure, he applied himself earnestly and eagerly to the study of law, and in 1885 he was admitted to the bar at Kentland and at once entered practice. He has built up a good professional business and has an excellent standing among his fellow practitioners. Mr. Babcock's energetic nature has carried him into other fields of endeavor, and for some years he has been the representative at Goodland of the Home Insurance Company, of New York, and he has developed the largest farm insurance business in this part of the state. He also holds stock in one of the leading financial institutions of Newton County.

In politics Mr. Babcock is a democrat, and on two occasions has been candidate for prosecuting attorney, but owing to political conditions has met with defeat. His fraternal connection is with Goodland Lodge, Free and Accepted Masons, No. 445, and he holds membership also in the National Geographic Association. A close student of literature all of his life, Mr. Babcock is possessed of no little talent as author and poet, his "The Silver Oar and Other Poems," published in 1914, having met with great success. His new book, a prose preparation, "The End of the Trail," a romantic story of the battle of Tippecanoe, will be soon placed upon the market, and will no doubt go far to place Mr. Babcock's name among the literary men of the Hoosier state whose work is eagerly watched for. He has been a constant and energetic friend of education and has done much to elevate the standard of the Goodland public school system. His hobby is the founding of a museum, which he hopes



to hand down to future generations. He already has many curiosities from all parts of the world, and his collection as it is already would form the basis for a very respectable museum of curios.

Mr. Babcock was married July 5, 1888, in Benton County, Indiana, to Miss Maggie A. Watt, daughter of James E. and Lydia (Hagenbuch) Watt, who were of Scotch-German descent, good substantial farming people who came to Benton County, Indiana, from Illinois about the year 1870 and here passed the remainder of their lives in agricultural pursuits, being honored and respected in the community. Mr. and Mrs. Babcock have the parents of three children: James E., who attended Lake Forest College for a time, a graduate of the Logansport Business College, and of the Indiana Law School, at Indianapolis, who has inherited much of his father's ability and is now successfully engaged in the practice of law at Indianapolis; Augustus Dorr, who is attending Hanover College; and Charles Dwight, a student at the Goodland High School. Mr. and Mrs. Babcock and their children are members of the Presbyterian Church, of which Mr. Babcock for some years was a member of the board of trustees.

**SUMNER H. DICKINSON.** A traveler through Newton County sees many attractive homes, not only in the thriving towns, but in the agricultural districts, the evidences of enterprise crowned with success being plentiful on every side. In Grant Township stands a substantial farm residence, around which good barns and other buildings cluster and well-tilled acres stretch. Everything about the place wears an air of neatness and order, and evidences of good taste, which mark the occupants as people of intelligence, thrift and culture. Investigation shows the estate to be Maple Grove Place, owned by Sumner H. Dickinson, one of the leading and substantial citizens of Grant Township, who from modest beginnings has developed a substantial property aggregating 644 acres.

Mr. Dickinson was born September 27, 1855, near Battle Creek, Calhoun County, Michigan, and is a son of Horatio N. and Miranda (Titus) Dickinson, natives of New York and of good old New England stock. As young married people Mr. Dickinson's parents removed from the Empire state to Calhoun County, Michigan, where they continued to be engaged in farming until 1858, in that year going to Kankakee County, Illinois, and locating on a farm in the vicinity of the Town of Manteno. There the father, who was born September 10, 1810, died January 2, 1881, while the mother, who was born September 26, 1813, died June 21, 1901, and both were laid to rest in the Wilton Center Cemetery, in Will County.

Sumner H. Dickinson was reared on his parents' farm in Kankakee County, Illinois, securing his education in the public schools, and was reared as a farmer, a vocation which he chose for his life work on attaining his majority. In 1878 he made a visit to a brother who had come to Newton County, and here met Elizabeth S. Con-





stable, of Goodland, to whom he was married on March 28th of that year. She was a daughter of Richard and Mary (Knight) Constable, early settlers and highly respected people of Grant Township. With his young bride, Mr. Dickinson returned to Illinois, but he had seen enough of Newton County to feel that it was a very desirable place to live, and in 1883 returned to this community and took up his residence in section 29, Grant Township, where he has since lived. His beginning here was a modest one, but as the years passed he added from time to time to his holdings and now with his son, L. A. Dickinson, has 644 acres, in a high state of cultivation, a property which gains its name from a fine maple grove. The excellent buildings on the farm have been the result of his enterprise, and in every sense, he may be justly considered a model and modern farmer. In addition to general farming, he has specialized to some extent in the breeding of Aberdeen-Angus cattle, and in this department has also achieved a satisfying success.

During his residence in Grant Township Mr. Dickinson has contributed liberally of his time and means in the movements that have been promoted to better ditch and road conditions. A republican in his political views, he served two terms as county commissioner of Newton County, was then defeated by three votes for a third term, but at the following election was again returned the victor and entered upon the duties of his office January 1, 1915. His entire public service has been one which has given his fellow-citizens the utmost satisfaction. He has never been an office seeker, and the honors which have come to him have come unsought. With his family, Mr. Dickinson belongs to the Baptist Church, being a member of the congregation at Goodland. Aside from his farm he has various interests, and is a director in the First National Bank of Goodland.

Mr. and Mrs. Dickinson have been the parents of four children, namely: Miss Lillian M., who resides with her parents; Lawrence A., who married Essie Cole and lives in Union Township, Benton County, Indiana, on a farm; Floyd, who is deceased; and Harold R., a graduate of the class of 1916, Franklin College.

**ALBERT P. STEPHENS.** The name of Albert P. Stephens is familiar among the agriculturists of Newton County as belonging to one of its most industrious citizens and a man who possesses an excellent standing in business circles. He has been the architect of his own fortune, making his way in the world from a modest beginning to one of substantiality, and has proven a fine example of the results of a wise economy, patient industry and good judgment.

Mr. Stephens was born May 25, 1854, in Knox County, Illinois, near the Town of Abingdon, and is a son of Richard and Caroline M. (Adair) Stephens. His parents, of German and Irish descent, respectively, were born in Highland County, Ohio, and in 1852



moved to Illinois, settling first in Knox County, from whence they moved to McLean County, in the same state. There they passed the remaining years of their lives in farming, and were among their community's well known and highly esteemed people. Albert P. Stephens was five years old when taken to McLean County, and there he grew to manhood, securing his education in the public schools. He was married in 1880 to Miss Elva Rathmann, daughter of William and Louisa (Kuntz) Rathmann, residents of McLean County, Illinois, of German descent, and to this union there has been born one daughter, Miss Alma L., who resides with her parents.

Mr. Stephens continued to be engaged in farming in McLean County with a fair degree of success until 1895, in the spring of which year he came to Newton County, Indiana, and settled on his present farm, located in section 25, Grant Township. Fairview Farm, as this property is known, is a tract of eighty acres, all in a high state of cultivation, and embellished with all needful farm buildings, not the least among which is Mr. Stephens' comfortable residence. General farming has been given the major part of his attention and a proper rotation of crops yields a handsome income, but he has also been engaged to some extent in stock raising, a department of farming activity in which he has also gained success.

Mr. Stephens casts his vote and influence in behalf of republican principles, and at various times has served his community in official capacities, having been road supervisor for eight years and township trustee for six years. With his family, he attends the Baptist Church. By his habits of industry he has built up a good home for himself and family, and acquired a competence for his declining years. He is progressive in his ideas, liberal and public-spirited, and in noting his surroundings and the respect in which he is held in Grant Township, it must be admitted that he is the possessor of a large share of all that makes life desirable.

GEORGE ORMISTON. Among the honored citizens of Newton County who have retired from active pursuits after many years passed in agricultural operations, one who is a familiar figure at Goodland is George Ormiston, whose residence in this county covers a period of forty-five years. After conducting a large and valuable property of his own during many years, Mr. Ormiston became the superintendent of large and important outside interests, of which he was the overseer until 1912, when declining years caused him to surrender them to younger hands, and at the present time he is living quietly, enjoying the comforts that a life of industry has brought to him.

George Ormiston was born in County Selkirk, Scotland, November 25, 1835, and there grew to manhood and received ordinary educational advantages. He had just attained his majority when he emigrated to the United States, being possessed at that time of but little save his ambition and native determination and industry.



He settled first at Hammond, St. Lawrence County, New York, but in May of the following year moved to Cuba, in the same state, and was variously employed until October, 1862, when he enlisted in the Twenty-eighth Independent Battery, New York Volunteer Light Artillery. Although this regiment saw some active fighting at the front and one time went as far south as South Carolina, the greater part of its service was confined to guarding New York, where it had some part in the suppression of the draft riots. Enlisting as a private, Mr. Ormiston was promoted to sergeant of his company, and was acting in that capacity at the time of his honorable discharge at New York, July 30, 1865.

When he was mustered out of the service, Mr. Ormiston returned to Cuba, New York, and there resided until February, 1871, when he came to Newton County and took up his residence on the northeast quarter of section 35, in Iroquois Township, where he developed a valuable and fertile farm, and where he resided until 1892. He still is the owner of 120 acres in Newton County, operated by a tenant. Elijah B. Hunter, a large landowner of Goodland, was taken care of by Mr. Ormiston for about six months, and when he died, in April, 1895, Mr. Ormiston became overseer of the six farms belonging to Mr. Hunter's widow. In 1912, owing to his advanced years, Mr. Ormiston decided to give up his active labors and at the present time he confines himself to looking after his investments and landed interests.

Mr. Ormiston was married February 5, 1873, to Miss Calista A. Watson, a daughter of Harvey and Effie (Miller) Watson, of Cuba, New York, and of Scotch-German descent. To this union there was born one son: Robert W., who lives with his parents and manages the Hunter estate; he married Maggie Ewing and has one son, Leslie E., who is now three years of age. Mr. Ormiston is a republican, and while he has never sought public office, served for two years as a township supervisor while living in Iroquois Township. He is a Presbyterian in his religious belief and for many years has been an elder in the church, while Mrs. Ormiston is an adherent of the Baptist faith. Mr. Ormiston has always been in favor of public improvements, and the old Ormiston Ditch was named in his honor because of his activities in promoting public-spirited movements, but the name has since been changed. His career has been one in which he has illustrated the ability through which men overcome early limitations, and the position of prominence and independence which he now occupies should prove an incentive to youths who are compelled to make their start in life in what they may consider discouraging circumstances.

THOMAS RAMSAY. An ever increasing prosperity has rewarded the efforts of Thomas Ramsay ever since his arrival in Newton County in 1885. To this community he brought an earnest purpose and strong physical equipment which had combined previous to this



time to counteract in large degree the disadvantage of having had to enter upon his career without financial assistance and with only ordinary educational training. His labors in the vocations of farming and stockraising were prosecuted with such vigor that in March, 1908, he was able to retire with a satisfying competence, all gained through his own efforts, and at the present time he is the owner of 360 acres of valuable land, in addition to having other interests.

Mr. Ramsay was born June 11, 1849, in Ayrshire, Scotland, within two miles of the birthplace of one of his present fellow-townsmen, John Cochrane, also a retired farmer. Mr. Ramsay was not quite twenty-one years of age when he arrived in America, June 9, 1871, having secured a public school education in his native land, and his first place of residence was the City of Chicago. On October 9th of the same year occurred the great conflagration which practically destroyed the Illinois metropolis and the story of which has passed into history, and Mr. Ramsay passed through the exciting experiences incident to the fire and was employed in various capacities in assisting to rebuild the city. After four years at Chicago, in 1875 he moved with his parents, William and Susannah (Armour) Ramsay, who had come to America in the fall of 1874, to Indiana, settling northwest of Monon, in White County. After two years there the family moved four miles north of Remington, where they spent one year, and subsequently went to Union Township, Benton County, where they spent three years on the farm of James E. Watts. Both parents passed away in White County.

On leaving Benton County, Mr. Ramsay came to Jasper County and spent four years in Carpenter Township, and in 1885 moved to Grant Township, Newton County, where he made his home until the time of his retirement. His start as an agriculturist was not an auspicious one, as he had but little capital, but, with the able assistance of his faithful and devoted wife, he was soon started on the highroad of success, and as the years passed he accumulated more and more land and eventually became one of the substantial men of his community. He is the owner of a well-developed property of 360 acres, on which are improvements of a modern character, a farm which stands as a monument to his ability and perseverance. Mr. Ramsay is a stockholder in the First National Bank of Goodland and has other interests.

In June, 1876, while living in White County, Mr. Ramsay was married at Monticello to Miss Margaret McCullough, who was born in the North of Ireland, of Scotch descent, and was brought to America when a young lady by her parents, both of whom passed their last years near Londonderry, Ireland. Mr. and Mrs. Ramsay have no children. They are faithful members and generous supporters of the Presbyterian Church, and were contributors to the fund which was raised to build the church of this denomination at Goodland. They reside in their comfortable home at Goodland, where they are enjoying the fruits of their years of useful and





honest toil, and have the respect and regard of their neighbors and numerous friends and acquaintances. While Mr. Ramsay has been a supporter of the republican party, he has never sought public office, nor has he joined secret or other orders. His life has been passed quietly and contentedly as an agriculturist and in the promotion of the movements and institutions which have resulted in the upbuilding and development of one of the most prosperous communities of this part of the state.

**GEORGE DANIELS.** The well kept and productive farm of George Daniels lies in a fertile tract of Barkley Township, with the Village of Parr as his postoffice. Mr. Daniels has lived in Jasper County all his life, and by industry and close attention to business affairs has reached a position of substantial independence and has provided well for the family which has grown up around him and the members of which are now established in homes of their own with one exception.

It was on the old Daniels homestead in Jasper County that George Daniels was born February 16, 1850, a son of Shelby and Mary (English) Daniels, who in the very early days came to Western Indiana from Champaign County, Ohio, and secured a quarter section, 160 acres, direct from the Government, paying \$1.25 per acre. That land is now highly improved and is worth many times its original cost. On the old homestead they reared a family of eight children named Martha, William, Ellen, Rody, George, Charles, Thomas and Harris. Of these sons the oldest, William, saw active service in the Civil war as a member of an Indiana regiment, and after the war came back to the old home farm, where subsequently he bought the interests of the other heirs. The father died in 1877, and the mother in 1876.

Reared in Jasper County during the decades of the '50s and '60s, and attending such schools as then offered their facilities to the growing children, George Daniels has made farming his regular vocation, and after leaving the home of his parents began by hard work to improve a place of his own. On March 13, 1879, he married Miss Mandy Ott. To their marriage have been born six children: Volda, deceased; Alonzo Roy; Walter; John and Ira. All these children are now married except Ira. Among the possessions which Mr. George Daniels prizes because of family associations is an old flint lock musket which originally belonged to his grandfather, and which is now nearly 200 years old. Mr. Daniels' father had occasion to use this same gun about 1861 or 1862 when there was reported to be a conspiracy among the rebel sympathizers in this section of Indiana to capture Rensselaer.

**ROBERT ZICK.** There is no more progressive citizen in Walker Township than Robert Zick, whose life has been spent here in the quiet and thrifty work of the agriculturist and a good citizen for



more than half a century. His is a name that is respected for both what he is and what he has done, and it means much to any community to have such earnest workers and public spirited men as Robert Zick among its citizens.

Though he was born in LaPorte County, Indiana, October 12, 1858, Robert Zick represents a family that previous to that time and only a few years later again became identified with Jasper County. The Zicks were among the pioneers here and many acres were turned by the plow for the first time under their guidance, and they were the class of people who did most to develop the early resources and reclaim them from the wilderness. His parents were Michael and Wilhelmina (Sauer) Zick. They were married about 1854 in Rensselaer of Jasper County, moved from there to LaPorte County, but in November, 1864, returned to Jasper County and settled in Walker Township. Here they acquired a tract of school land, direct from the Government, and a portion of that land has never passed out of the family name and is now owned and operated by Louis Zick. Michael Zick was in his time a very industrious farmer and a man whose character and conduct were above reproach. He acquired a large amount of land, was hard working from boyhood until his later years, and could be depended upon to support public movements in his community. He was an active democrat and did much to support and maintain schools in his community and was a school director for a number of years. In church affairs he was a Lutheran. He was laid to rest in the Wheatfield Cemetery November 6, 1911, and his beloved wife was buried there March 11, 1907. In their family were five children: Gustie, Robert, Mildred, Allie and Louis, all of whom are married except Robert and Louis.

The children of this family were all reared in Jasper County, and they gained their education from schools which represented the typical standards of educational equipment at that time but were far inferior in every point to the modern school system of Jasper County. The school where Zick children learned their first lessons was held in an old log cabin, and was known as the Hershman School. It was about two miles from the Zick home, and the children walked back and forth every day during the school term, though the boys of the family were in regular attendance only during the winter seasons, their services being required at home for farm duties during the rest of the year. In this way Robert Zick grew to manhood and when about twenty years of age was practically independent and working for his own support. He was employed on his father's place, and still occupies a part of the old homestead. He is generally reputed to be one of the most progressive farmers in Walker Township. While doing much to keep his own farm up to the best standards, he has not neglected those public improvements which are of equal benefit to every citizen, and he was the



leading petitioner and was chiefly responsible for the construction of the Zick ditch through his part of the township. He believes in any kind of public enterprise that will benefit future generations, and has already seen the fruitage of some movements which he started many years ago. Mr. Zick is unmarried. He is a democrat, was elected township trustee, and for a long number of years has been road supervisor in his district.

HON. WILLIAM W. GILMAN. In the death of William W. Gilman, which occurred November 12, 1910, Newton County lost one of its oldest and most honored citizens. Mr. Gilman came to Newton County nearly half a century ago, was instrumental in developing a portion of the wild land to the uses of cultivation, was very successful as a farmer, but is probably best remembered for his leading position in the republican party in Western Indiana and for his long record of official service.

Although he came to Newton County from Illinois, he was born in Essex County, New York, September 4, 1834. His parents were Hiram and Elizabeth (Palmer) Gilman, both of English descent, the former a native of Vermont and the latter of New York. William W. was the second in a family of five children. Hiram Gilman left New York in 1853, and after two years in Illinois moved to the northwestern frontier in Minnesota, and died in that state in 1868. His widow survived him, and subsequently resided in Dakota.

Of sturdy New York State stock, reared as a farmer boy and with such advantages as the public schools of his day and generation could supply, and like many sturdy eastern boys, as soon as he reached his majority, he set out to find his fortune in the West. For seven years he lived in Minnesota Territory and State, and was there during the formative period of Minnesota's history. Before he was twenty-one years of age he had served as a road supervisor in Minnesota. From Minnesota he went to Illinois and lived in Kankakee County five years, and then in the fall of 1868 identified himself permanently with Newton County, Indiana, locating in Grant Township. For several years he was a teacher both in Illinois and Newton County. In 1869 he bought a farm and thereafter for a number of years was closely identified with agricultural enterprise and the many public duties to which he was called by choice of the people. He was noted for his liberality and his readiness to serve other interests than his own.

The first presidential vote he ever cast was for Abraham Lincoln at the beginning of the Civil war period. In Newton County he became one of the strongest representatives of that party and was almost a dominant factor in political affairs for many years. He was seldom defeated as a candidate, and filled nearly all the offices within the gift of the people of his home township and county. He was elected trustee of Grant Township in 1870 and re-elected in



1872, making four years in that office; was elected clerk of the District Court of Newton County in 1874; and then in 1880 went to the Legislature as joint representative from Newton and Jasper counties, and was re-elected in 1882. He proved a very valuable member of the Legislature. He was a student and a practical man of affairs, and originated and influenced much of the legislation adopted during those four years. In 1896, as a democrat, he suffered defeat in another campaign for the State Senate. He was affiliated with Lodge No. 445, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons at Goodland. He was very active in the Methodist Episcopal Church, he and his wife having been members of that denomination from the time of their marriage. Mr. Gilman was laid to rest in the Goodland Cemetery.

March 12, 1854, he married Miss Harriet C. Morse, daughter of William and Mary Morse of Essex County, New York. She was born December 18, 1835, and is still living at her home just south of Goodland at the venerable age of fourscore. A brief record of the nine children born to them is as follows: Minnie E., first married Douglas Adams, and is now the wife of Milton Wertsbaugh and they live near Dustan, Nebraska. Their three children are named Leone, Edgar and Minnie. Hiram F., the second, and Merritt J., the third child, are both now deceased.

William Henry, the fourth in the family, was born January 21, 1862, and lives at Goodland. By his marriage to Sadie Turner, he is the father of five children named William F., May M., Edna F., Hope V. and Ruth F.

Frederick D., the fifth, also lives at Goodland. He has been twice married. His first was Lorena Wilson and his second wife Dora Wickwire. The children of the first marriage are Owen, Hazel, Wayne, Marian, Leona and Grace, and the one child of the present union is Merritt.

Jessie C., the sixth in the family, first married John Lovett, by whom she is the mother of two children, Gladys and Leslie, and is now the wife of Frank Hitt, and lives in Chicago.

Nellie E., the seventh child, married Albert Patton and of her five children the three now living are Owen, Fern and Crystal Pearl.

The eighth in the family is Jennie C., wife of Dr. O. H. Mohnney and living in Goodland.

George W., the youngest, was born November 22, 1875, and married Maude Davidson.

JOHN ADE. Though in his sincere, earnest and useful life the late John Ade had no thought or desire to proclaim himself apart from the goodly company of the "plain people," yet the very texture of his individuality gave him definite facility for leadership in popular sentiment and action, and his intellectual strength, his mental vigor and his high sense of personal stewardship made obscurity for him a thing in the realm of the impossible. He was one of the





avored mortals whom nature launches into the sea of life with the heritage of a sturdy ancestry, a splendid physique, a masterful mind, and energy enough for many men. Planted in a metropolis, he would have used his talents in competing with and uplifting his fellow men. Established in a rural community, he used them in developing the things that the environment needed. John Ade was the type of a true gentleman and a representative of the best in community life, dignified and yet possessed of an affability that won him warm friends among "all classes and conditions of men." He was a positive force and a benignant force in all of the relations of a significantly long and worthy career, and the influence that he wielded made him one of the best known and most honored citizens of the county in which he so long lived and labored to goodly ends. He established his home in Newton County, Indiana, in the year that its organization was formed, and here he continued to maintain his residence until his death. Not too often or through the medium of too many vehicles can tribute be paid to this honored pioneer of Newton County, and it is gratifying to be able to present in this publication a brief review of his career, a memoir whose freedom from ponderous eulogy shall mark it as being in consonance with the personality of the strong, simple and kindly gentleman to whom it is dedicated.

John Ade was born in Sussex County, England, on the 21st of September, 1828, and was the oldest in a family of six children. He was a son of John and Esther (Wood) Ade, and he was a lad of about twelve years at the time of the family immigration to the United States, in 1840. A home was established near the City of Cincinnati, Ohio, and there the subject of this memoir was afforded advantages that supplemented the educational discipline which he had received in his native land. A sturdy and ambitious youth, he was soon found serving a practical apprenticeship to the trade of blacksmith, in which he became a skilled workman and to the work of which he gave his attention about five years. From 1849 to 1851 he presided with dignity over a toll gate near Cincinnati. In 1851 was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Ade to Miss Adaline Bush, of Cheviot, Hamilton County, Ohio, and in 1853 they removed to Iroquois County, Illinois. A few weeks later, however, they established their home at Morocco, Indiana, a village that is now included within the environs of Newton County. This county was organized and duly constituted in the year 1860, and at the first election of officers in the new county Mr. Ade was elected county recorder, whereupon he removed to Kentland, which had been designated as the judicial center of the county. Of this office he continued the incumbent until 1864, when he was elected county auditor, a position of which he continued in tenure until 1868. These preferments indicate significantly the influential status of Mr. Ade in connection with the governmental affairs of the county during the early period of its history, and show alike that his was an inviolable place in the



confidence and good will of the people. Soon after his retirement from the office of county auditor the Discount and Deposit Bank of Kentland was organized, and he accepted the position of cashier of the same. He continued his effective service in this capacity for many years, and in 1875 he became one of the interested principals or stockholders of the institution, to the upbuilding of which he had contributed greatly. Though his well ordered activities in this connection and in association with other lines of enterprise, including farming, Mr. Ade became one of the substantial men of Newton County, and his public spirit was ever on a parity with his sure and appreciative stewardship in connection with civic and business affairs. His life was essentially one of service, and well has it been said that "he who serves is royal," for no other patent of nobility can equal this. Without entering into the great white light of publicity, John Ade pursued his course toward the goal of all that is desirable and ennobling in life, concentrating his resources and lifting them into the sphere of worthy achievement. His fair fame rests not on the idea of mere financial success but upon the firm basis of work accomplished and honors worthily won. His character was the positive expression of a strong and loyal nature, and in studying his clear-cut, sane, distinct character, interpretation follows fact in a straight line of derivation.

Mr. Ade was for many years actively affiliated with the time-honored Masonic fraternity, in which he held membership in Kentland Lodge, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, at the time of his death. In politics he was a stalwart and well fortified advocate of the principles of the republican party, and both he and his wife were zealous members of the Christian Church, in which he served in official position for many years.

Mr. and Mrs. Ade became the parents of seven children: Anna, William, Alice, Joseph, Emma, George and Ella. The devoted wife and mother passed to the life eternal, and of their children Anna is the wife of John W. Randall; William is a resident of Kentland, Indiana; Alice is the wife of John G. Davis; Joseph is a farmer of Newton County; Emma died November 28, 1865, at the age of five years; George has occupied a high vantage-place and "told the people a lot of things," his fame as an author and dramatist being such that mere words in this connection would be superfluous.

Mr. Ade was essentially an appreciative reader and student, and it was his privilege and pleasure to give to his children the best possible educational advantages. He himself wrote with vigor and directness, and one of his noteworthy works was the preparation of a most interesting history of the Kankakee region, including Newton County, this having been published in book form and having called forth high commendation from authoritative sources.

JOSEPH F. ILIFF. The pioneer movement from the Eastern states to Indiana was at its height in the '30s and among those who



sought homes here were the Iliffs, the Parkisons and the McCollis, and their descendants still possess their old farms and in character perpetuate their sturdy virtues. Within less than a decade after the first white settlement was made in Jasper County, John Morrison Iliff and his wife, Ann Elizabeth (Parkison) Iliff, located in Barkley Township. The latter was a daughter of John G. Parkison, extended notice of whom appears elsewhere. They passed their quiet, beneficent lives in Barkley Township and their ashes rest in the old Parkison burying ground.

Probably the birth of Joseph Franklin Iliff, son of John Morrison and Ann Elizabeth (Parkison) Iliff, which occurred on Christmas day, 1841, was one of the very first after the organization of the township. His opportunities for education were limited because as soon as he was old enough to attend the district schools, his services were needed on the farm and he gave his father help until the breaking out of the Civil war and President Lincoln issued his first call for troops, when he enlisted for three months in a local regiment. Upon the expiration of this term he re-enlisted, becoming a member of Company G, Ninth Indiana Volunteer Infantry. After serving faithfully in this regiment for one year he was honorably discharged on account of disability.

Mr. Iliff returned then to Jasper County and soon resumed his farm industries and continued them until 1868, when he moved to Lincoln, Nebraska. After residing there for seven years he returned to Jasper County where he made his home until in December, 1911, when he removed to Manchester, Tennessee, where he still resides. He is a man of sterling character and becomes influential wherever he chooses to make his home. His political views have led him to give hearty support to the republican party. For many years he has been a Mason and an Odd Fellow. Mr. Iliff never accepted any public office except that of trustee of Barkley Township.

In 1863 Mr. Iliff was married to Miss Henrietta S. Shields, and to them were born six children: John W., who is deceased; Charles Frederick; Laura A., who is Mrs. James Comer; Ellis E., who is a resident of Hoopston, Illinois; Frank E., who is in business at Watseka, Illinois; and Ora E., who is deceased. The father of Mrs. Iliff, William Shields, was an early settler in Jasper County. Mrs. Iliff died in August, 1896.

**CHARLES FREDERICK ILIFF.** Fortunately for the world, there are men who love the farm and who, from choice, make farming a life business. These are the agriculturists who succeed in their farm undertakings and to whom are often entrusted responsibilities involving many thousands of dollars annually. One of these competent farmers is found in Charles Frederick Iliff, or, as he is familiarly known, "Fred" Iliff, the only member of his father's family now living in Jasper County. He was born in Barkley Township,



Jasper County, Indiana, December 25, 1806, the eldest surviving son of Joseph Franklin and Henrietta S. (Shields) Iliff, the latter of whom is deceased. He grew up on a farm and was educated in the public schools. He has always followed farming as an occupation and at present is the capable manager of a 3,000-acre farm, a portion of the Simon P. Thompson estate, which lies in Union Township.

On November 10, 1895, Mr. Iliff was married to Miss Mary L. McColly, who is a daughter of Willis H. McColly, and a granddaughter of Clark McColly, who was one of the early settlers of Jasper County. Mr. and Mrs. Iliff have had three children: Ora Opal, Bernice Pearl and Florence Latonia. The second daughter died July 22, 1913, at the age of fifteen years.

Mr. Iliff is affiliated with the republican party and as a well informed man takes much interest in public matters especially in these days of national anxiety. He has long been a member of the order of Odd Fellows.

**JAMES BENNETT BABCOCK.** The pioneers of Jasper County met with hazards and hardships which are happily spared the present generation. It is difficult to picture the present richly cultivated and productive fields as wild, unbroken, uninhabited prairie, but such a sight met the eyes of James Bennett Babcock when he came here in early days. Although accustomed to conditions prevailing in an old settled section, he was not discouraged, on the other hand, being already trained as a farmer he saw great possibilities in the virgin soil and located on a tract situated  $3\frac{1}{2}$  miles southeast of Rensselaer.

James Bennett Babcock was born in Courtland County, New York, December 16, 1834. He was the fourth son in a family of eight children born to his parents, Nathan and Ruth (Foster) Babcock. He married early as was more or less customary in those days but died five years later, a victim, perhaps, of hard work. He was a man of exemplary life and a devout member of the Missionary Baptist Church. His death occurred in October, 1858.

James Bennett Babcock was married in August, 1853, to Ellen Jane Price, who was one of a family of four children born to her parents, Joseph and Esther (Elwood) Price. They were natives of Logan County, Ohio, and there Mrs. Price died, after which, in the early '50s, Joseph Price and his three daughters came to Jasper County, Indiana. They, like other pioneers, endured many deprivations and hardships the like of which none of their descendants know. To James B. Babcock and wife three children were born: Frank J., Nathan B. and James Llewellyn, all on the old Babcock homestead, where the second son, Nathan B. died. The early death of Mr. Babcock fell heavily on his family, his children all being yet young, nevertheless they were faithfully cared for by the mother, who, despite her heavy cares, survived into advanced age.





**JAMES LLEWELLYN BABCOCK.** Born in a log cabin on his father's pioneer farm, in Marion Township, Jasper County, Indiana, James L. Babcock had few educational advantages and worked hard even in boyhood. He gave what assistance he could on the home farm and also herded the cattle on the great open spaces of country when all his faculties had to be kept alert to keep them from straying and to protect them from possible attack from wolves that yet infected the stretches of woodland. When he reached manhood he moved from Marion to Carpenter Township and in 1893 came from there to his present valuable farm in Union Township. Here he owns 182 acres which he operates in connection with raising stock. His undertakings are carried on with prudence and good judgment and he is numbered with the successful agriculturists of Jasper County.

On October 10, 1889, Mr. Babcock was united in marriage with Miss Alice Gray, a daughter of the late James Gray, formerly a well known farmer of this county. To this marriage three children have been born: Blanch, who is the wife of Walter M. English, of Rensselaer, Indiana; and Edna and James.

In politics Mr. Babcock is a republican and fraternally is identified with the Knights of Pythias. He began life's battle on his own responsibility with no material outside assistance and the success he has achieved has been entirely through his own enterprise and industry. He is one of Union Township's most respected citizens.

**HON. WILLIAM L. WOOD.** Prominent among Jasper County's men of worth and achievement is Hon. William L. Wood, farmer, merchant, public official and statesman, widely known because of his honorable identification with many interests. He was born at Deersville, Harrison County, Ohio, February 25, 1867, and is a son of Samuel Cope and Rebecca (Mahan) Wood.

On the paternal side the ancestry is Scotch and the founder of the family, in America, was William Wood, who reached the American colonies just two years before the war of the Revolution was declared, and threw in his efforts with the patriot army, taking part in the battle of the Brandywine and afterward serving equally well as a soldier at other points. He probably settled subsequently in Ohio, and reared a family, one of his sons, Thomas, becoming the father of Samuel Cope Wood, and this brings the record down to recent years. On the maternal side an ancestor was, in the person of William Brown, an English Quaker preacher.

At Deersville, Ohio, in 1860, Samuel Cope Wood and Rebecca Mahan were united in marriage and to this union eight children were born: Jessie, Mary Jane, William L., Hannah Elizabeth, Ann Eliza, Linnie Adeline, Taylor Fremont, Harry Melville and Blaine, all surviving except Ann Eliza, who died July 29, 1870. The father of the above family engaged in farming and stockraising and in Ohio gave much attention to sheep. In 1877 he moved to Jasper County, Indiana, reaching here on November 7th of that year. He settled



first in Marion Township but later removed to Barclay Township and there died on November 1, 1895. He was a republican in politics but political agitation displeased him and he would never consent to hold any public office. The mother of the above family survived until October 5, 1897.

William L. Wood attended the public schools in Barkley Township and during two terms was a student in the normal school at Rensselaer. When his fifteenth birthday came he decided he was old enough to become self-supporting, and this resolution he never regretted although, no doubt, on many occasions he found difficult obstacles in his path to be surmounted. He still further progressed in his books and for fifteen years has been a member of the county bar. Farming for many years was his vocation and for ten years he was in the grain business, and for a period covered by twenty-three years was in the mercantile line, first at Aix and later at Parr, retiring from the same in February, 1913. During his long term as a merchant he was postmaster of the above villages and also was railroad express agent.

These many important industries, intelligently, carefully and successfully carried on, served to bring Mr. Wood a wide acquaintance and public confidence and this was expressed by his election in 1914 to the State Legislature. The records will show how busy and useful a member he was. He served on the following committees: State Prison Affairs, Drains and Dykes, Government Apportionment, Fees and Salaries, Federal Relations, Insurance and Benevolent and Scientific Institutions. Mr. Wood introduced the following important bill in relation to elections. Its features were: compelling petitioners asking subsidy elections be seventy-five instead of twenty-five and that they file bond with commissioners guaranteeing the cost of any special election that might be called. In case election failed petitioners to pay the cost, if carried, the cost to be deducted from subsidy voted. He also introduced an amendment to a law on the statute books since 1869. The full value of his as of other public men's services will be better appreciated as time goes by, for a perspective afforded by time is helpful in viewing achievements of the present. Mr. Wood made an honorable and highly efficient record in the General Assembly, perfectly satisfying to his friends and constituents.

On November 16, 1889, Mr. Wood was married to Miss Margaret E. Price, a daughter of William and Isabel (Whited) Price. They came to Indiana from Ohio in 1836 and Mr. Price settled in Barclay Township, where he conducted a blacksmith shop. He died July 3, 1900, and his burial was in the Prayer cemetery in Barclay Township. Of his ten children, eight survive. Mr. and Mrs. Wood have had two children: Milton G., who died in infancy; and Ocie Olive. The family belongs to the Christian Church and are interested in Sunday school work. Mr. Wood is identified with Earl Lodge,



Free and Accepted Masons, at Rose Lawn, and with the Odd Fellows at Parr.

JOHN M. MOORE. The changes that come over an agricultural section in the lapse of forty-seven years when they are the result of well directed intelligent industry, are indeed marvelous, and in no part of Indiana are these more marked than in Jasper County. The majority of the pioneers who came here shortly after the close of the great Civil war were largely home-seekers, men and women accustomed to everyday toil, and willing to assume still heavier labor if, thereby, they might secure ownership of land. Some came too late in life and died before their hopes were realized, but they usually left descendants and they are the ones who, almost a half century later, possess the goodly heritage their fathers saw. Among the families settling in Jasper County in 1868 was one named Moore, a worthy representative of which is found today in John M. Moore, a respected citizen and substantial farmer of Barkley Township.

John M. Moore was born in Pennsylvania, May 23, 1849, and is a son of Moses and Sarah (Tice) Moore, the former of whom was born in Pennsylvania in 1800, and the latter in New Jersey, February 8, 1804. They were married at Lewistown, Pennsylvania. Five children were born to them in Mifflin County and with them, in 1868, Moses Moore and wife came to Jasper County, Indiana. The children were thus named: Mary Bell, Elizabeth, Martha, Caroline and John M. The father was a general laborer. In politics he supported the democratic party. His death occurred in May, 1872, the mother surviving him for three years. She was a devoted member of the Methodist Episcopal Church and a church worker into old age.

John M. Moore attended school in Pennsylvania until he was about thirteen years old and then began to take care of himself. When sixteen years of age he learned the blacksmith trade but since coming to Indiana has not followed it as a business, although a knowledge of blacksmithing is of great help on a farm. For three years after reaching Jasper County he followed farming for others. In 1871 he bought 120 acres of land in Barkley Township, it being a part of the old Burgette homestead, from Wesley Hinkle, and in the cultivation and improvement of this land he has been more or less engaged ever since.

On September 1, 1872, Mr. Moore was united in marriage with Miss Juliette Parkinson, who is a daughter of Addison and Barbara Ann (Kenton) Parkinson, very early families of this section. Mrs. Moore's parents were married May 5, 1850, and she was the first born of their six children: Juliette, Martha, Emma, Ida, Laura and Stella, the only survivors being Mrs. Moore and Stella. Mr. and Mrs. Moore have three children: Victor, Mary Bell and Joe, the three children being married and settled in homes of their own.

In politics Mr. Moore is a strong democrat, always being willing to work for his party's candidates in campaigns but has never been



willing to accept any office for himself, although through years, experience and good judgment well qualified for the same. With his family he belongs to the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Among many interesting things that Mr. Moore tells of the times when he first came to Jasper County, are of the old methods of farming and of the old-fashioned farm implements then in general use. There were many fields of grain he cut, in his young days, with a cradle scythe. Mrs. Moore's father, Addison Parkinson, was a man of much enterprise and was the first farmer of this section to invest in a hay-pitcher, and people came from miles around to see so wonderful a piece of farm machinery.

**FELIX RILEY ERWIN.** The business stability of a community is reasonably assured when reliable, far-sighted, substantial men have become prominent in its affairs, investing in property and honorably and conservatively conducting concerns of large importance. Such successful enterprises carry the fair name of a town to other points and attract purchasing visitors, and often, without doubt, induce investment of capital in other directions. The mercantile business conducted at Fair Oaks by Felix Riley Erwin, offers a case in point, as it has been developed into a large enterprise by a business man of acknowledged probity and of keen business understanding.

Felix Riley Erwin was born near Remington, Indiana, January 21, 1872, and is a son of Lorenzo Dow and Mary A. (Donnelly) Erwin. The family is of Scotch-Irish extraction, the paternal great-great-grandfather of Mr. Erwin coming to the American colonies from Scotland prior to the Revolutionary war, during which period he served in the patriot army.

Lorenzo D. Erwin, father of Felix R., was born in Tippecanoe County, Indiana, October 2, 1831, where he attended subscription schools and grew to manhood. In 1858 he came to Jasper County and settled in the neighborhood of Remington, later married there and for many years continued to reside in that locality, at present, however, making his home with his son at Fair Oaks. Of his family of nine children, seven are living, but his wife died in August, 1897, her burial being at Brook. For the past fifteen years Mr. Erwin has been retired from active life but still retains ownership of land in Indiana and also in the Dakotas. He is a member of the Christian Church, and one of the organizers and a charter member of the Masonic Lodge at Remington. He has always taken much interest in public affairs and gives his political support to the present administration.

Felix R. Erwin was educated in the public schools of Carpenter Township, the Sheldon High School and the Normal School at Valparaiso, after which he went to the West and while there engaged in teaching school for six years. On returning to the East he located at Fair Oaks, Jasper County, Indiana, and embarked in a general store business, in which line he has continued ever since.





For two years he has been a member of the advisory board of the American Merchants' Syndicate and is a stockholder in the same.

On April 9, 1902, Mr. Erwin was united in marriage with Miss Alice B. Proudley, who is a daughter of Dr. George B. Proudley, and they have three children: Anna B., Olive Grace and Helen. Mrs. Erwin is postmistress at Fair Oaks.

Mr. Erwin has long been active in democratic political circles and for the past two years has been chairman of the democratic county organization, an exceedingly responsible position, the duties of which he has performed with the greatest efficiency. His fraternal connections are with the Odd Fellows and the Modern Woodmen of America. With his family he belongs to the Methodist Episcopal Church. He stands high in public regard, is public spirited and broadminded, lends his influence at all times in support of good government and stable reforms and, although in no ostentatious manner, gives to charity as his conscience prompts and his good judgment justifies.

LARKIN C. LOGAN. Profitably engaged in farming in Gillam Township, with his farm located on a rural route out of Medaryville, Larkin C. Logan is one of the most enterprising and progressive men of Jasper County. He has interested himself in the public affairs of his township and county, and has spent nearly all his life in the honorable industry of agriculture. His home has been in this section of Indiana for more than forty years, and with the help of his good wife and later with the assistance of his children he has placed many improvements which have increased the value and comfort of his own home and have served to keep up the high standards of rural life in Gillam Township.

While most of his active career has been spent in the North, Larkin C. Logan is a Southern man by birth and training and is a veteran of the Confederate army in the war between the North and the South. He was born in Surrey County, North Carolina, August 29, 1840. His father, John Logan, spent all his life in North Carolina. Educated in Southern schools, about the time he reached manhood he became a soldier in the Twenty-first North Carolina Volunteer Regiment, and for two years fought with all the vigor of his young manhood the cause of the South. He was present at the battle of Bull Run, at Fredericksburg, was engaged in the seven days' fighting around Richmond, and the climax of his military career came at Gettysburg, where he was shot in the arm and being completely disabled was sent home. For two years after the war on account of this injury he was unable to perform any hard labor. On coming north he spent one year in Peoria County, Illinois, and arrived in Jasper County in 1869, locating in Gillam Township. There he was employed as a farm hand four years, and then bought forty acres of the fine farm where he is now located. Subsequently he bought another forty acres from his sister, and at the present



time has 160 acres, making one of the best farms in Gillam Township, and all of it under cultivation except twelve acres in timber. His success has come from general farming and stock raising.

In politics he has naturally been inclined to the democratic faith, though in local affairs he is somewhat independent, and has never sought any public office. On August 4, 1872, Mr. Logan married Maria Ellen Mason, a daughter of George and Maria (Gillam) Mason. Her father entered the land from the Government where Mr. and Mrs. Logan now live, and was one of the true pioneers of Gillam Township, having for several years had his home in the midst of the Indians and wild animals. To the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Logan were born six children. George, who married Molly Ferris; Sally, Mrs. Edward Rockwell; Jennie, Mrs. C. W. Ferris; Howard, who died in 1894; Thomas, who married Maud Culp; and Mira, Mrs. Marion Sands.

Mr. and Mrs. Logan are both attendants of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Together they have made all the improvements on their farm, and they constitute two of the best citizens in their section of Jasper County.

**WILLIAM FOLGER.** For upwards of twenty years the name William Folger in Barkley Township has been synonymous with high class agricultural work and with the faithful performance of every duty that devolves upon him as a business man and citizen. His prosperity as an agriculturist is known to all who are familiar with conditions in Barkley Township, and among local citizens his recent administration as a township trustee is recalled with a great deal of satisfaction, since he has always been a leader in matters of public improvement and advancement.

An Illinois man by birth, William Folger was born in Coles County August 4, 1873, and part of his education came from one of the old time country schools, conducted in a log cabin, with split log benches for the pupils to sit upon. His parents were George W. and Sarah (McDonald) Folger, who were married April 26, 1865. All their four children are still living, named Horace, Edward, Rose and William. George W. Folger, the father, spent fourteen years as a teacher in Coles and Douglas counties, Illinois, and was an active republican in politics. Mr. William Folger's paternal grandparents came from Ireland, while in the maternal line he is of Scotch descent. Some time before the Civil war the Folger family moved to Texas, and while there the brothers of Grandfather Folger ran away to escape service in the Confederate army and joined the Federal forces. One of them was shot because he refused to join the Southern cause. William Folger's mother was also a school teacher and gave about twenty-two years of her life to that calling.

When eleven years of age William Folger started out to make his own way in the world. He worked in the summer, spent the winter seasons in school, and eventually had the satisfaction of pos-



sessing an education better than the average, having attended grammar schools until finishing the course, and spending three years in a high school. From school work he turned his attention to the vocation of farming, and in March, 1891, moved to Pulaski County, Indiana, and after seven years there arrived in Jasper County in March, 1898. Since then his work in improving and managing his own farm lands has become a matter of note and commendation to all his friends and neighbors in Barkley Township.

On December 25, Christmas Day, 1898, William Folger married Miss Marie M. Spriggs, daughter of Joel F. and Julia A. (James) Spriggs. Her parents were married January 4, 1864, her father having come from Ohio while her mother was a native of Newton County, Indiana. Mrs. Folger was one of a large family of ten children, namely: Simon T.; James M., deceased; Haddie, deceased; Mary; Edward M., deceased; Minerva, deceased; Daniel H.; Druzilla; Marie M.; Roxanna B.; and Joseph Randolph, deceased. Mr. Spriggs, the father of these children, served for thirty years as a justice of the peace, and was a very successful farmer. He belonged to the Church of God and in politics was a democrat. Mrs. Folger grew up and was educated in the common schools of Jasper County.

To Mr. and Mrs. Folger have been born five children: Francis, Garfield, Eva, Ivy and Ruth, all of whom are living and at home. Mr. Folger now owns a comfortable rural home in Barkley Township, and has made the interests of his community his own. He was formerly a progressive in politics, and for six years served as township trustee of Barkley, and during that time succeeded in establishing four new schoolhouses, and showed himself so aggressive a friend of public education that his administration is recalled with pleasure by all local citizens. Another improvement which is largely credited to his efforts is the Gifford stone road. Mr. Folger is a member of the Methodist Church.

THOMAS J. JONES. Few families have been identified with Jasper County for a longer time than that represented by Thomas J. Jones of Kankakee Township. They came here more than half a century ago, and have always been classed as among the most enterprising farmers and public spirited citizens.

Though he has lived in Jasper County since early boyhood, Thomas J. Jones was born in Owen County, Indiana, March 18, 1854. His parents, C. Columbus and Sarah (Brown) Jones, were married in Owen County in 1852. The father was a carpenter by trade, conducted a farm in addition to his mechanical pursuits, and in June, 1861, he left his family, as did many other patriots of that time, and enlisted in Company A of the Twenty-eighth Indiana Infantry. He went out as a private and served for three years, taking part in many of the great campaigns of the war, and being always present where duty called regardless of danger or hardship.



He was mustered out of the service at Indianapolis, and then rejoined his family. In politics he was a democrat, and a member of the Methodist Church. He is remembered by many Jasper County citizens for his public spirit and the sturdy influence which he exerted in behalf of every good cause in the community. He was laid to rest after a long and active career August 4, 1903, while his wife passed away October 3, 1895.

While the father was away fighting the battles of the Union during the Civil war, his wife and children removed to Jasper County, locating on the old William Graves place, of which they bought forty acres. The children were: Thomas; Elizabeth A., who is now married; and Isaac B., deceased. The children after coming to Jasper County were reared on the old homestead, and attended one of the primitive log cabin schools then so familiar in this section of Indiana. Thomas J. Jones has never married, and for fully forty years has been actively identified with farm enterprise in Kankakee Township, and he has been both a witness of and a factor in the many improvements which have practically transformed this section of the state. He has never withheld his support from any movement which he believed would confer benefit not only upon himself but upon the community of which he was a part. Until more recent years he was one of the active men in politics.

GERRIT GREVENSTUK. In Keener Township, close to the little Village of DeMotte, is located the present homestead of Gerrit Grevenstuk who has been identified with Jasper County by residence and sterling activities for nearly a quarter of a century. His own industry, combined with the good judgment and thrifty management of his wife, has brought about a degree of prosperity that places him among the substantial citizens.

By nativity and early training Mr. Grevenstuk is a Holland Dutchman, and comes from a country where agriculture and stock breeding have probably reached their highest development. He was born in Friesland, whence have come some of the best breeds of dairy cattle. His birth occurred June 9, 1844, and he is a son of Richard and Sapke (Bousma) Grevenstuk. His father died in the old country in 1880, and two years later his widow came to America and died here in 1885. Six of her seven children are still living.

In Holland Gerrit Grevenstuk received a substantial educational training, and was thoroughly educated in farming methods of that country before coming to America in 1881. The first ten years in this country he spent in the City of Chicago, and then moved to Jasper County and bought his present farm near DeMotte, where now for many years he has been prospered through his efforts as a general farmer and stockraiser. He has all his land improved and under cultivation and is very systematic and efficient in all his departments of farm management. The buildings and other improvements were put on the farm by Mr. Grevenstuk, and he has a great





deal to show for his labors. In politics he is a republican. On May 1, 1885, he married Madge Groot, daughter of Simon and Grace Groot, who died in the old country. Of this marriage there is one child, Richard, born January 24, 1886. Both Mr. and Mrs. Grevenstuk were previously married, but had no children by those unions. They are members of the Dutch Reformed Church. Since coming to Jasper County they have witnessed a great many changes in the county, and in their own quiet and substantial way have contributed not a little to the development of Keener Township.

DAVID D. GLEASON. What is probably the best improved farm in Keener Township, Jasper County, is the 280-acre tract belonging to David D. Gleason, one of the few remaining old settlers of the county. When he came here, more than forty-two years ago, this property consisted principally of marshes and swamps, and gave little promise of ever becoming a fertile, productive farm. It required labor of the most prodigious kind to reclaim this land for cultivation, but Mr. Gleason, accomplishing the seemingly impossible, has transformed it into one of the garden spots of the county. His career is one eminently worthy of chronicling among the records of the builders of Jasper and Newton counties.

Mr. Gleason was born in the Province of Ontario, Canada, within twenty-five miles of the City of Toronto, December 5, 1842, and is a son of Oliver Gleason, a native of New York. His mother was an Unger, of Pennsylvania, and of Dutch parentage, while his father was of Irish stock. The latter died in Canada and in 1852 David Gleason and his widowed mother came to the United States and settled in Illinois, from whence they moved to Newton County, Indiana, during the period of the Civil war, and settled in Lake Township. David Gleason endeavored to enlist for service in the latter years of the war, but the conflict was brought to a termination before he was enrolled as a soldier. However, two of his brothers fought in the cause of the Union and one met a soldier's death on the battlefield.

Mr. Gleason was still a lad when he came to Indiana and his education was completed in Illinois in the primitive schools that had been established there, and is practically self-educated. The community was but sparsely settled, for at that time all of the northern portions of Jasper and Newton counties were covered with a vast swamp, in which wild game, mosquitos and malaria battled for supremacy. Amid these unpromising surroundings he grew to sturdy manhood, employing his time after the manner of the youths of his day and locality, and finally took the first step for the founding of a home of his own when he was married to Miss Orpha Kenyon, who had been born and reared at Exeter, Rhode Island. About the year 1873 Mr. and Mrs. Gleason moved to his present farm in Keener Township, Jasper County. Here he found the property infested with the houses of innumerable muskrats, but he had previously had excellent experience in reclaiming land, and



although the greater part of the property was under water he set resolutely about to make a home for himself and his family. Under his energetic management the work progressed rapidly and as the years have passed Mr. Gleason has added from time to time to his holdings, until he now has 280 acres, all under a high state of cultivation. The land is drained with 5-, 6-, 7-, 8-, 10- and 12-inch tiling, and the buildings and improvements are of the best to be found in this part of the county. Every acre of Mr. Gleason's land and every article of his holdings have been gained through his own efforts, and he is eminently entitled to be known as a self-made man, while his sound, practical sense is evidenced very strongly everywhere in the management of his farm. He is a stalwart republican in his political views and has cast his every presidential vote for the candidate of his party. While he has not been desirous of holding public office, he has performed the duties of citizenship in the capacity of road supervisor and the present excellent condition of the roads of his locality testifies as to how conscientiously his work in that office has been performed. He is a member of no secret orders or societies.

Mrs. Gleason, a faithful helpmate and kind and loving mother, died in October, 1914. There are five children in the family: Mrs. Dora Olson; Everett and David B., who are engaged in agricultural pursuits in Kenner Township; and the Misses Daisy and Olive B., who reside with their father. Mr. Gleason has a modern, comfortable home, where he dispenses hospitality with a lavish hand, and where his many friends in the township are always assured of a sincere and hearty welcome.

**DANIEL HARRISON TURNER.** Jasper County has no kindlier and better esteemed citizen than Daniel H. Turner, who has lived in Kankakee Township at his present home farm for so many years that the community looks upon him as an important landmark. He and other members of the Turner family have been identified with Jasper County for more than half a century. His own work has helped to turn many acres of the virgin soil, to clear and drain, to plant, cultivate and harvest, and he has now reached the harvest time in his own career, being able to look back and count more than three-quarters of a century of existence.

He was born May 21, 1838, in Putnam County, Indiana, a son of Daniel and Mildred (Asher) Turner. The parents were married in 1816, just a century ago, in Culpeper County, Virginia. A number of years later, in 1837, before any railroads had reached the Middle West country, the little family started out to find a new home beyond the Alleghenies. They drove all the distance from Virginia to Kentucky, and after prospecting around different localities in that state were unable to satisfy themselves with conditions, and then came on to Putnam County, Indiana. They located on a farm, and there the family of children grew up to useful manhood



and womanhood. The father was a farmer all his life, was a whig in politics until the republican party was organized, and thereafter supported that with equal loyalty and zeal. He died and was laid to rest in San Pierre, Indiana, February 10, 1862. His wife passed away in January, 1883.

It was in Putnam County, Indiana, that Daniel H. Turner and the other children were reared and educated. Altogether there were nine in the family, their names being: George, Joseph, Mary, Guy, Jane, Rebecca, William, Ann and Daniel H. Those now living are Rebecca, William, Ann and Daniel H., all of whom are married and have homes of their own. When the children went to school in Putnam County they attended one of the old-fashioned log cabin temples of learning. It was supported entirely by subscription, since the real public school system of Indiana was not inaugurated until a number of years later. The parents paid \$2 for each scholar in the school for a term of three months. Daniel H. Turner recalls writing at a broad desk which was hewn from a single log, and which extended around one side of the room, being laid at an incline on pins driven into the side wall. The seats were split log benches, without backs, and the boys got very tired of sitting on those benches for hours at a time, and the younger ones had to partly stand and lean against the bench in order to rest their feet on the floor. It was strictly a common school education, based upon the fundamentals of the three R's.

In the spring of 1861 the Turner family moved to Kankakee Township in Jasper County. There they settled on a farm of fifty acres of the old Graves homestead. At that time Daniel H. Turner was twenty-three years of age, and he then started out to make his fortune on his own resources. He was soon able to buy a tract of fifty acres of unimproved land, and after a number of years of hard work he had it cleared up and in cultivation. He sold it to advantage, and then bought 120 acres of the Denny homestead. There it was that he built his permanent home, followed one season of crops after the other for many years, and finally was able to retire and enjoy the comforts of his many years of well directed industry.

On July 20, 1862, Mr. Turner married Miss Clara C. Harrington. They have had no children, and both are now quietly spending the evening of their lives on their Kankakee Township farm. In politics Mr. Turner is a democrat, and has taken quite an active interest in party affairs at different times. For six terms he held the office of township supervisor, and no public enterprise has ever gone by him without his active support and co-operation.

JOHN FINN. As the members of this well known family have been identified with Jasper County more than forty years, there is much that could be said of their praiseworthy activities in helping to develop this section of Indiana. Mr. John Finn, of Kankakee Township, has his name permanently associated with one of the drainage



ditches in that part of the county, and his industry and management as a farmer and public spirit as a citizen have given him a leading place among the people of Jasper County.

His parents were both from Ireland, coming over poor and practically friendless, and raising themselves by hard work and the exercise of their native intelligence to people of substantial prosperity. John Finn's mother was Winifred Kennedy, who was born March 17, 1820, in County Clare, Ireland. She came to America in 1845, locating in Porter County, Indiana, where she was employed in the home of Sam Howells until 1860. In that year she married William Finn, who was also born in Ireland, at Dublin. Both were employed on the Howells farm, were married there, and a few months after their marriage with their combined resources bought forty acres of Government land at \$1.25 per acre. It was on that little farm that their three children, John, Mary and William, were reared. Of these children the only one now living is John. William Finn, Sr., was killed by a team of horses in September, 1872, and left his widow with the three children already mentioned. In the spring of 1873 she brought her little family to Jasper County, and settled on the old Prewett homestead in Kankakee Township. Here the children attended school at the old Frog Pond School, one of the primitive schoolhouses of Jasper County.

When John Finn was quite young he had to take up the serious responsibilities of life, but has never been without plenty to do and has found opportunities to gain a well merited success. For a number of years he was in the mercantile business, also conducted a livery, but finally returned to the old homestead in Kankakee Township, where he now conducts his farming operations.

John Finn married Maggie Schimmel, a daughter of George and Mary (Shellhorn) Schimmel. The children in the Schimmel family, six in number, were named Mike, Eliza, George, Maggie, Philip, and Mary. Mr. and Mrs. Finn were married January 7, 1884, and they have three children: Leona, Mary, and Ina, the two older girls being married.

In the democratic party John Finn has always taken an active part, and has likewise supported earnestly every public enterprise. It was due to his interest and initiative that the Finn Ditch was constructed. He served on the township advisory board for one term of four years, and also put through the Mylius Ditch.

MRS. EMMA MARY ANDERSON. For more than twenty years Mrs. Anderson and her little family have been residents of Wheatfield in Wheatfield Township, where her husband was one of the leading merchants and citizens until his death a few years ago. This is one of the homes that maintain a high standard of living and influence in that section of Jasper County, and it is fitting that this history should make some record of them as individuals.

A daughter of Frederick and Carrie Ringel, Mrs. Anderson was





born May 2, 1865, in the Province of Posen, Germany. Altogether there were eight children in the Ringel family, namely: William and Frederick, now deceased; Gusta and Carrie, both of whom are married; Harmon, deceased; Emma and Charles, both living and married; and Tillie, deceased. In the spring of 1869 when Mrs. Anderson was four years of age the family immigrated to America and settled at Manistee, Michigan, where Frederick Ringel was employed in the saw mills, and where he lived until his death in 1900. After coming to America and gaining his citizenship he worked with the republican party, and was a man of considerable influence in that section of Northern Michigan. He was a member of the Lutheran Church and died in that faith. He was laid to rest at Manistee January 1, 1901.

Emma Mary Ringel was reared in Manistee, and was well educated and prepared for the duties which she assumed upon her marriage. On December 21, 1886, at Grand Rapids, Michigan, she married George D. Anderson, a son of George A. and Carrie Anderson. Mr. Anderson was a railroad man, and one of the most popular freight conductors on the Grand Rapids & Indiana Railroad. He was in the service until 1894, and then gave up railroading and moved to Wheatfield in Wheatfield Township of Jasper County. Here he established a confectionery business, built up a good trade in the village and surrounding country, and actively looked after his business affairs until his death on February 19, 1909. The body of this honored citizen was laid to rest in the Wheatfield Cemetery. In politics he was a republican, and a man whose support could be relied upon for every public enterprise. He was a member of the Methodist Church, and was affiliated with the Knights of Pythias.

Since the death of her husband Mrs. Anderson has continued to make her home in Wheatfield, and has that comfort and solace which comes from the presence of a younger generation about her. Her three children are: Ray G. and James C., both of whom are married; and Bessie C.

HENRY LA FAYETTE LANGDON. There are very many substantial old families of Indiana that can trace a southern ancestry, in that their pioneer forefathers came from North Carolina and afterward had much to do with the civilizing and building up of this great commonwealth. One of these families, bearing the name of Langdon, settled in the southern part of Owen County, Indiana, when Indians were yet numerous there, and their descendants have prospered and established themselves in other sections of the state.

Henry L. Langdon, one of Jasper County's well known citizens, was born in Jackson Township, Owen County, Indiana, January 19, 1855, and is a son of William C. and Ellen Ann (Haltom) Langdon, whose parents were natives of North Carolina and very early settlers in Indiana. Henry L. Langdon passed his youth on his father's farm and up to his fifteenth year attended the district



schools in the neighborhood, mainly in the winters, gaining thereby, however, a basis of knowledge that has served him well throughout a business career covering many years. Following his marriage, in 1880, he moved to Sullivan County, Missouri, and for the next ten years was engaged in farming there and in Linn County. From Missouri, he returned to Indiana and located at Wheatfield, in Jasper County, embarking in business. For a time he conducted a livery stable and started also a dray line, and finding the latter more profitable, after three years sold his stable and continued his draying business for fourteen years and also, for four years operated a flour and feed store. As a business man Mr. Langdon has always commanded the respect of his competitors and enjoyed the confidence of the public.

On May 6, 1880, Mr. Langdon was united in marriage with Miss Inez Rosetta Huber, and four children were born to them: Albert Lee, who died in Missouri, when three years old; Herman R., who is a merchant at Wheatfield; Ella B., who is the wife of Thomas Jensen, a merchant at Wheatfield; and Lillie M. All the children were given educational advantages and the elder daughter, now Mrs. Jensen, taught five terms of school, three terms in Jasper County, and two terms in Oklahoma. Mrs. Langdon is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Mr. Langdon is one of the influential men of his town, has served as a member of the town council and is affiliated with the democratic party. He has long been connected fraternally with the Modern Woodmen and the Knights of Pythias.

HERMAN R. LANGDON. While not a native of Jasper County, Herman R. Langdon, president of the town board of Wheatfield, was only six years old when brought here, and no citizen of the place cherishes its good name or is more interested in its substantial development. He was educated here and has here won business success and public regard, but he was born in Sullivan County, Missouri, November 27, 1883, the second son of Henry LaFayette and Inez Rosetta (Huber) Langdon.

Following his graduation from the Wheatfield public schools when eighteen years of age, Mr. Langdon began his business career as a clerk in the Myers Cash Store, at Wheatfield, of which, for the past five years, he has been a partner, his steady attention to business bringing its just reward. Like his father, a strong democrat, he has been active in political matters but has accepted few favors, but in November, 1910, he was elected, with a flattering majority, president of the town board of Wheatfield and assumed the duties of that office in the following January and has conscientiously performed them ever since.

On July 12, 1911, Herman R. Langdon was married to Miss Ollie White, of Tefft, Indiana, and they have one daughter, Wilma, who was born June 9, 1913. Mr. Langdon is identified with the



Masons and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Modern Woodmen of America, attending the lodges at Wheatfield.

ENGLEBRET JENSEN. No complete history of any section of the United States can be written without giving credit to other lands for some of its best types of people, and particularly is this true of Norway. For years on years from that far country have come willing toilers, men of brawn bred to industry, who have sought better working conditions and the possibility of a comfortable home in America, and they have been made welcome for soon they have proved worthy of the citizenship they have asked. There are few communities in the United States in which Norway's citizens by birth, can not be found among the most prosperous and most highly esteemed, and Indiana can number many such. The Jensen family of Jasper County may be mentioned in this connection.

Englebret Jensen, who, for over a quarter of a century has been in business at Wheatfield, Indiana, was born May 21, 1857, at Fredrickshald, Norway, a son of Jens Hansen. He grew to manhood there, attended school and afterward learned the trade of blacksmith, which trade he followed in Norway for ten years. In the meanwhile he married and in 1882, with his family immigrated to America and proceeded to the great City of Chicago, where, for two years he worked as a blacksmith. In 1884 he came to Wheatfield, Indiana, and here has remained ever since with the exception of nearly two years spent at San Pierre and three at Tefft, during all this time carrying on his own business as a blacksmith. He has been honorable and upright in his business dealings and is held in such high esteem by his neighbors that all were satisfied when he was elected, on the republican ticket, president of the school board.

In 1877 Mr. Jensen was married in Norway to Caroline Larsen, and eleven children have been born to them: Jens O., Alexander L., Marie, wife of Joseph P. Hammond; Thomas, Louis, Laura, wife of Earl Dörner; Morton, deceased; Charles, Hulda, Ita and Enga, the last named being deceased. Mr. Jensen is a member of the Church of the Latter Day Saints.

THOMAS JENSEN. As a successful business man of Wheatfield, Thomas Jensen, third son of Englebret and Caroline (Larsen) Jensen, occupies a foremost place and is influential in local politics and in all that concerns the welfare of this community. He was born at Chicago, Illinois, November 12, 1883, and was an infant when brought to Wheatfield by his parents. With the exception of three years during which he lived at Rensselaer, he has been a resident of this place and after his school days were over, he became a clerk in a drug store and continued faithful in that capacity for sixteen years and then embarked in business for himself. In 1912 he opened his general mercantile store here and through courtesy, good judgment and upright methods of doing business, has met with



very satisfactory results and is a leading merchant of the place. He has always been a republican in his political views, enjoys the confidence of his party and has served in the office of city clerk.

On September 25, 1910, Mr. Jensen was united in marriage with Miss Beatrice Langdon, a highly educated lady who had been an acceptable teacher in the public schools of Jasper County. Mr. and Mrs. Jensen have one son, Thomas Arden. They are active members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and are well known also in the pleasant social life of Wheatfield. Mr. Jensen is identified with the Masonic fraternity.

**NATHAN T. KEENE.** The State of Ohio has made large contributions to the good citizenship of Indiana, and all through Jasper County may be found prosperous farmers and prominent business men whose ancestry leads back to the Buckeye State. The Keene family came from Ohio, and afterward, as before, proved people of worth and high character and for fifty years Jasper County has profited by their industry and influence, and Wheatfield Township has no better nor more substantial citizens.

Nathan T. Keene, a prosperous general farmer of Wheatfield Township, was born in Ohio and when quite young was brought to Indiana by his parents. They settled in Tippecanoe County and there he grew to manhood on his father's farm. He married Mary Elsea and in 1865 they came to Jasper County and settled first on a farm in Jordan Township and from there removed to Wheatfield Township in 1880, where ever since Mr. Keene has been engaged in agricultural pursuits.

Six children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Keene: Mary Malinda, wife of Gordon Hendrickson of Wheatfield, Indiana; Albert S., who is in business at Wheatfield; Sarah Elizabeth, who married L. C. Asher, is a farmer in Kankakee Township; Harriet Ardella, who died when three years old; Clara Christina and James Nathan. The youngest son was born September 18, 1874, married Edna D. Jessup and resides at Wheatfield.

**ALBERT S. KEENE.** Until he was three years old, Albert S. Keene, eldest son of Nathan T. and Mary (Elsea) Keene, lived in Tippecanoe County, Indiana, where he was born July 21, 1862, in a log cabin then standing on his father's farm. From the above age he grew up in Jasper County, during boyhood attending the district school when opportunity offered although his advantages were comparatively quite limited, school facilities in those days being but poorly developed. He gave his father assistance on the farm and gained a reputation as a careful farmer and stockraiser and for three years prior to 1892, engaged also in the business of drilling wells.

In March, 1892, Mr. Keene moved to Wheatfield and embarked in the furniture and undertaking business, which line he still con-





tinues, additionally conducting a harness business. These enterprises are all carried on with business integrity and Mr. Keene enjoys the confidence of the entire public.

On November 3, 1891, Mr. Keene was united in marriage with Miss Mary Gushwa, who was also born in Tippecanoe County, a daughter of William Gushwa, who still survives and in his ninety-second year is the most venerable resident of Goodland. To Mr. and Mrs. Keene eight children have been born: William A., Lottie Amelia, Burl Henry, Dora Irene, Bernard LeRoy, Clarence, Bernice and Paul, all surviving except Bernice, who died at the age of seven years. As far back as the family can be traced its religious membership has been with the Methodist Episcopal Church. Equally so have the men of the family been republicans in their political connection, ever since the formation of the republican party. Mr. Keene has been active and influential in the party ever since locating at Wheatfield and has almost continuously held public office. He served for two terms as assessor of the Wheatfield Township and is now serving in his third term as township trustee, his continuance in office indicating the high degree of public confidence placed in his honesty and efficiency. He belongs to a number of fraternal organizations, these including the Masons, the Knights of Pythias, the Woodmen and the Foresters, all in Wheatfield.

EDWARD HESS. It was nearly sixty-five years ago that the branch of the Hess family to which Edward Hess belongs came into the wilderness of Newton County. Mr. Edward Hess has spent practically all his life in this one community and has found many opportunities to be useful and do good. A satisfying prosperity has rewarded his efforts as an agriculturist, and he has also lent his aid and encouragement to movements closely associated with the public welfare.

He was born April 22, 1848, in Ross County, Ohio, northeast of Chillicothe, a son of David and Elizabeth (Lyons) Hess. In 1852 the family journeyed from Ross County and made settlement in that portion of Jasper County, which is now Newton County, and in Iroquois Township.

David and Elizabeth Hess were fine types of pioneers. David Hess died in Newton County, December 5, 1884, and his wife passed away August 4, 1914. Both are now at rest in the Brook Cemetery. On coming to Newton County David Hess bought a tract of eighty acres of land half a mile north and half a mile east of Brook, paying \$1.25 an acre and getting a Government patent signed by Franklin Pierce, then President of the United States. This land is still owned by Edward Hess, and has thus never been out of the family possession since it was acquired from the Government. David Hess was a very energetic farmer. He was a big man, both in body and heart, was straightforward, read his Bible, practiced Christianity and was a good, clean, honest citizen. In





Mrs Edward Hess Edward Hess



politics he was a republican, and once filled the office of township supervisor. He and his wife had five children: Sophia, who died young; Edward; Sherman, deceased, who married Esther J. Dain; John, who died young; John L., now deceased, married Matilda Crisler, and left two children named Alma and Eva.

Edward Hess grew up on his father's farm, gained an education in the public schools such as existed in Iroquois Township fifty or sixty years ago, and made farming his principal vocation.

On October 6, 1876, he married Lenora More, a daughter of William A. and Eliza (Dryer) More. Her parents were natives of Barry County, Michigan, and were of German descent. Mrs. Hess was born in Barry County, Michigan, September 20, 1851, the fifth born of her parents' six children, two sons and four daughters, but only two of this large family of children are now living, Mrs. Hess and her brother William L., the latter a farmer of Barry County. The only child of Mr. and Mrs. Hess, William Louis, who was born on the 26th of October, 1877, died on the 14th of November, 1897. He had completed the studies of the eighth grade of the common schools and was a student at Westfield College in Illinois when he became ill, and he died at his parents' home. He was a young man highly respected by all who knew him.

In 1899 Mr. Hess retired from the active management of the farm and has since lived in Brook. He has performed his share of duties in politics and in public affairs and has frequently been a delegate to republican conventions. Altogether he gave six years to the office of township trustee. He was first elected in 1884 and served two years, and again filled the office from 1900 to 1904. He was township trustee when the Brook schoolhouse was built. He has many times served as viewer on roads and ditches and has done a great deal in promoting the building and improvement of roads and ditches in his county. In a business way with his and his brother Sherman's success is represented by the ownership of about 430 acres of land in Iroquois Township and some town property. He is also a director and stockholder in the Brook Terra Cotta Tile & Brick Company, and has used not a little of the product of this company in tiling his own land. Mr. Hess and wife are members of the United Brethren Church at Brook and he has served as trustee and treasurer. They have two of the old parchment deeds signed by President Franklin Pierce and dated April 15, 1853, which are valuable heirlooms in their home, and which are two of only five found in both Jasper and Newton counties.

AMOS AGATE. It will soon be forty years since Amos Agate established his home in Newton County and it was in this locality that he won his material prosperity and his active years have not been unaccompanied by useful service in the advancement of community welfare.

Mr. Agate is an Englishman by birth and was born in Sussex-



shire, November 18, 1849, a son of William and Mary (Holden) Agate. When he was seven years of age his family came to America in 1856, and settled in the county district some twenty or thirty miles from Chicago but in Cook County, Illinois, near Orland. The parents spent the rest of their lives there and are buried in the Orland Cemetery.

It was as a country boy in Cook County that Mr. Agate spent his youth, attended the local schools, and made his first venture and his profits from farming. In 1876 he was united in marriage with Sarah Ann Nichols, who was born in Cambridgeshire, England, October 23, 1845, the fourth of the seven children, three sons and four daughters, born to William and Sarah (Jones) Nichols, but only two of this large family of children are living, Mrs. Agate and her brother Frank, who resides in Missouri. The parents are also deceased. Mrs. Agate was only five years of age when she came with her parents to the United States from her native land. After leaving the common schools she attended the Cook County Normal, and was a successful teacher for four years, having taught seven terms in one district. She is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church at Brook.

In 1877, the year following his marriage, Mr. Agate came to Newton County and established his home in the southern part of Jackson Township. He was at that time young and vigorous, enterprising and ambitious, and soon had a considerable tract of land under cultivation and devoted to the raising of good grades of stock. He still owns that farm of 160 acres in Jackson Township, and also has a half interest in 170 acres in Michigan. His own farm has been well tiled and it is still one of the model stock farms of the county and is under the management of his son. In 1903 Mr. Agate retired from active farming and has since lived in Brook, where he owns some town property.

He and his wife have two children: Ralph Holden, who completed his education at Rochester, Indiana, and is now secretary and treasurer of the Southern Industrial Institute at Lafayette, Indiana, a state institution; by his marriage to Charlotte Rice he has a son Ralph Holden Agate, Jr. Lester William, the second son, conducts the home farm in Jackson Township, and married Charlotte Eaton.

Mr. Agate in politics might be classed as a stand pat republican. He has rendered considerable service to the town community of Brook, and was active in securing the establishment of waterworks. He has served as supervisor, and at one time was candidate for sheriff, being defeated by twenty-two votes. For about two years he served as deputy sheriff, and during two terms of the Legislature he served as doorkeeper of Senate. In 1912 he was appointed by the county board or county assessor of Newton County, and served the unexpired term. For three years he has been a member of the town board of Brook and has been a committeeman both in Brook







*Anna E. Hershman*





John R. Hershman



and in Jackson Township. He is affiliated with the Knights of Pythias Lodge.

JOHN R. HERSHMAN. There are in every community men of great force of character who by reason of their capacity for leadership become recognized as foremost citizens and bear a most important part in public affairs. Such a man at Brook is John R. Hershman, who, now retired from the active supervision of his interests as a farmer, is serving the people of his township as trustee, and who in the course of a long and active career has many times stepped aside from his private interests in order to assume the obligations imposed upon public spirited citizens.

He was born in Benton County, Indiana, November 23, 1848, a son of Jacob and Mary (Edmondson) Hershman, the former a native of Ohio and the latter of Tennessee. The Hershman were of German stock and Jacob Hershman moved to Indiana about 1840, first locating in Hamilton County, afterwards in Benton, later in White County, and in 1868 established his home in Iroquois Township of Newton County. He was a hard working industrious citizen, provided well for his family, was of conservative temper, and was a valued member of his community. He followed farming in Newton County until he removed to Brook, where he resided till his death, on March 18, 1903, and he is buried in the Brook Cemetery. His wife passed away March 18, 1908. In politics Jacob Hershman was a republican and was a member of the Methodist Church. His children are: George W., who died as a soldier in the Civil war, at Shiloh, Tennessee; John R.; William H., who now lives at Tipton, Indiana, was for ten years county superintendent of schools in Newton County; Jennie, who married Newton Lyons and lives in Brook; Francis M., now deceased; Sarah and Solinda, twins, the former the wife of James Hoach of Chicago Heights, Illinois, and the latter the wife of Thomas Gratner, also a resident of Chicago Heights.

John R. Hershman grew to manhood on the old farm in White County, and came to Newton County at the age of nineteen. He was one of the leading agriculturists in Iroquois Township until 1903, when he retired and moved to Brook.

On September 13, 1871, he married Anna E. Lyons, a daughter of John and Anna (Jones) Lyons, and a sister of the late Aaron Lyons, who was the first white child born in what is now Newton County. Mrs. Hershman was also a first cousin of John B. Lyons, the well known stockman and banker at Brook. Mrs. Hershman died September 5, 1907, being survived by two children: Ray E., the older, is a member of the firm of Lyons & Hershman, hardware merchants at Brook, and was a member of the library board that built the Brook Library. By his marriage to Elizabeth Saylor he has three children named John E., Helen R. and Harold S. Lloyd L. the other son, is in the furniture and undertaking business at Brook.



He married Edie Rolls, and their two children are Gladys and Naomi.

Mr. and Mrs. Hershman not only reared their own family but also cared for and educated two other children. Joseph Dunn, who was taken into their home when a lad of ten years, received a good common-school training. He died in 1882, at the age of sixteen years, and was buried in the Brook Cemetery. Edna Moran, to whom they gave the name of Hershman, took the teachers' course at the Terre Haute Normal and afterward successfully taught in Newton County. She also attended college at Rochester, Indiana, and while a student there met Charles M. Gibbons, whom she afterward married, and they reside in Chicago. They have two children: Lesta, who graduated from the Chicago public schools, and Paul, who is a member of the sixth grade. Mr. and Mrs. Gibbons are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Mr. Hershman has been elected five different times to the office of township trustee. In the earlier years he was elected for the regular two year term and was elected in 1800, 1882, 1890, and in 1894, and he also served from 1894 to 1905 on account of his successor elect in office having moved out of the county. In 1914 he was elected to the same office for the four year term. He also served several years as a member of the county council. He was president of the Brook school board about eight years, and has been one of the progressive men favoring and working for such substantial improvements as good roads and ditches. He served as viewer on many gravel roads, and he was one of the viewers on the first gravel road ever built in the county, the Lincoln Township gravel road, that being the first modern highway in Newton County. In politics he has always been identified with the republican party, has filled all the chairs in the Brook Lodge of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, is a member of the Brook Lodge of the Knights of Pythias, and he filled all the chairs of the order, and was secretary of the Masonic Lodge for several years. He has been a steward in the Methodist Episcopal Church for about forty years, and his wife belonged to the same faith. In earlier years he taught several terms of district school, and has accepted every opportunity to raise the standards of the public schools in his county. Mr. Hershman among other interests owns about 230 acres of farming land and has some town property.

**HORACE MALCOLM CLARK.** The energy and enterprise pertaining to youth are valuable assets in any business. Experience undoubtedly brings wisdom but it often also has the effect of dampening ardor and making effort seem less worth while. The business demand on every hand is for youth, with its strength, its enthusiasms, its ambitions. In the great cities all over the country in which non-employment often becomes a menace, it is usually the experienced man of middle age is set aside for the young man. There are





limitations, of course, and certain qualifications demanded, but in these modern days, a public school education and a course in the state university, is recognized as a fine equipment for almost any vocation. No less is this true when a choice is made in the agricultural field. The educated young man has every advantage, and if his tastes incline in this direction, his future will be assured as perhaps in no other line of business. One of the well known young farmers and ranchers of Jasper County, Indiana, to whom the above remarks might apply, is Horace Malcolm Clark, whose agricultural interests in this section are extensive.

Horace Malcolm Clark was born at Crown Point, Indiana, November 4, 1892, and is a son of Guy D. and Berenice (Marble) Clark. His paternal grandfather was William Clark, and his maternal was Horace Marble, the latter, during life being one of the most prominent men of Northern Jasper County.

Until he was nine years old, Horace M. Clark lived at Crown Point, and since then at or in the vicinity of Wheatfield. His primary education was secured therefore in his birthplace and later he attended school at Wheatfield and at Rensselaer, subsequently taking a course in the Indiana State University at Bloomington. When eighteen years of age he became assistant cashier of the Bank of Wheatfield, satisfactorily filling this responsible position for eighteen months. Finding the banking field not to his taste, Mr. Clark then turned his attention in the direction in which he has shown a large measure of good judgment, not only in the management of his own extensive improved farm of 200 acres, but in managing the large marble ranch and in looking after other of his mother's real estate.

On June 25, 1913, Mr. Clark was united in marriage with Miss Elizabeth Virginia Spittler, who is a daughter of Hon. Charles G. Spittler, of Rensselaer, Indiana.

In politics Mr. Clark is a sturdy republican. Fraternally he is identified with the Masons, Knights of Pythias and Modern Woodmen and retains also his connection with the Phi Delta Theta, his Greek letter college society. Both he and wife are members of the Presbyterian Church. Their social circle is wide and their hospitable home is often the scene of pleasant functions because of their general popularity.

JOHN A. SIGLER. The connection of John A. Sigler with the farming and stock raising interests of Jasper County has made him widely known among the citizens of this section and is one of those who has done much to advance the great growth and development in the county during the past forty years. His best work has been done either in merchandising or in managing the soil and looking after live stock, and he is now regarded as one of the most substantial of the older residents of Jasper County. His home is at



DeMotte, and in that section of Jasper County his name is too familiar to require extended introduction.

While his home for many years has been on the south side of the Kankakee River, he was born to the north of that stream in Lake County, Indiana, August 21, 1846, a son of Eli and Mary (Cornish) Sigler. The family are of German stock. Both parents died at Hebron in Porter County, and are laid to rest there. Four of their eight children are still living. Eli Sigler was for many years a merchant at Hebron. In politics he was a republican, but made no effort to gain election to any office. His wife was very much interested in the Methodist Episcopal Church.

John A. Sigler is one of the youngest veterans of the great Civil war. Only a boy at the time, he enlisted in January, 1864, in Company I of the Fifth Indiana Cavalry, and subsequently was made a member of the Sixth Cavalry. He was in service about eighteen months, participated in some of the most sterling campaigns which brought to a triumphant conclusion the great conflict between the North and the South, and was finally mustered out at Indianapolis in August, 1865. In the meantime he had attended the local schools, and not long after the war he established a general store at Kouts Station. He was also connected with the hardware business at Hebron several years, but in 1873 moved to Jasper County, and bought a quarter section of land from Judge Thompson. Selling that, he then lived in Kansas for four years, but returning to Indiana established his new home on land situated a mile and a half west of DeMotte. He finally sold that, and has since lived in the Village of DeMotte, near which place he owns 240 acres, while his wife has forty acres. Most of this land is now operated by renter, but at an earlier time Mr. Sigler was very successful in the breeding and raising of cattle, hogs, sheep and poultry. He is one of the men who have been prospered in Jasper County and his individual example has had much to do with other development along the same line.

In politics he is a Lincoln republican, but has had no aspirations for office. In August, 1869, he married Miss Allie M. Gregg.

**TUNIS SNIP.** One of the most prosperous members of the little community of Holland people in Keener Township is Tunis Snip, who has farming property there that might well be the envy of many less successful and energetic farmers, and whose good citizenship has been evidenced in many ways for the betterment of the community. Mr. Snip has lived in Jasper County more than twenty years. His home farm is in section 30, consisting of 158.8 acres, while in section 34 he owns another tract of 80 acres.

While his parents, John and Nellie (Blom) Snip, were both born in North Holland, Tunis Snip was born in the City of Chicago only a few years after the parents emigrated to this country. The family came to America in 1853, and after landing in New York



City went west to Chicago, and located near Pullman, where John Snip was a farmer until his death in 1881. He survived his wife about two years, and both are buried in the Greenwood Cemetery at Morgan Park. In politics he was a republican after taking out American citizenship papers, but was never in any official position. There were three children: William, Gerrit, and Tunis. The son Gerrit now lives in Barton County, Missouri, and is a prosperous cattle dealer. By his marriage to Kate Milder, he has the following children: Nellie, deceased; Cornelius; Anga; John; Julius; Aurretta; and William. Gerrit was born in Holland and was about two years of age when the parents came to America. William, the oldest, was five years old when he came to the United States. He is now deceased. By his first marriage to Annie Deboy he had five children, named Jennie, John, Leonard, Nellie, and Dinah. His second wife was Fannie Brownsma, and the three children of this union, all still living, are Robert, Gerrit, and William.

Tunis Snip grew up in the southern district of the City of Chicago, was educated in the public schools, and at the age of twenty-one started out to make his own fortune. For four years he conducted a business at Pullman, handling hay, coal, grain, and feed. It was in 1894 that he came to Jasper County and settled on his present farm near Thayer, and his daily mail delivery by rural route, from the postoffice of that village. He has used both energy and intelligence in getting the most out of his land and making it a valuable property, and now has nearly all his acreage under cultivation and productive of some of the best crops grown in the northern part of Jasper County. He follows general farming and stock raising.

On April 15, 1878, Mr. Snip married Miss Mary Pool, daughter of Cornelius Pool, and also of Holland descent. Eleven children were born to their union, namely: Nellie, who died in infancy; Nellie, now Mrs. Ed Gilbert of Lafayette; Cornelius, unmarried; John, who married Gussie Von Weinen; Elizabeth, Mrs. Cornelia Evers; Mary, Mrs. John Hampster; Lena, Mrs. Lewis Plotzma; Tunis, unmarried; William, Gerrit, and Kate, all of whom are still single and at home.

As a republican in politics, but chiefly as a good citizen, Mr. Snip has made his work and influence count for a great deal in the development of his home township. For nine years he served as road supervisor, and was township trustee for six years, from 1909 to 1915. It was during his administration as trustee that the handsome schoolhouse was constructed at DeMotte. Mrs. Snip is a member of the Dutch Reformed Church. Early in the '90s, before coming to Jasper County, Mr. Snip spent 4½ months in Europe, most of the time in Holland and England, visiting the scenes where his parents and ancestors had lived for generations.



JOSEPH N. SALRIN. By his long continued business relations as a stock raiser and dealer in Walker Township, Joseph N. Salrin has become known to people all over Jasper and Newton counties. Wherever he is known he is esteemed for his genial goodfellowship, his thorough integrity, and his ability to get ahead in the world and make the best of circumstances and conditions.

He has spent most of his life in Jasper County, and the family name will at once be recognized as one of the older ones in this section of Indiana. He was born August 30, 1866, in Coshocton County, Ohio, a son of Christopher and Margaret (Nichols) Salrin. His parents were married in 1861 in Ohio, and a few years later they came with their children to Jasper County, locating on 160 acres in Walker Township. There the children were reared and they attended school, at first in the old Hershman schoolhouse when the teacher was Miss Melissa McDonald, afterwards they were in the new Hershman school for three years, and finished their education in the Zick schoolhouse. Christopher Salrin is now one of the honored pioneers and old timers of Jasper County. Farming has been his occupation, and when in his prime he did a considerable business in the raising of stock. His industry has enabled him to accumulate quite a large holding of land and he frequently set standard or progressiveness in his farm work which many others strove to follow. He is a democrat in politics, and he and his wife are members of the Catholic Church. One of the cardinal principles of his influence in public matters has been the building up and support of good institutions of education. His wife was laid to rest September 6, 1903, being survived by her husband and six children. Altogether there were eight children in the family, namely: Mary V., deceased; Margaret and Joseph N., both of whom are married; Agnes, deceased; Stephen, Perry W., George and Anna, all of whom are married and have homes of their own.

In the schools and schoolhouses already mentioned Joseph N. Salrin acquired his early education and was trained for a practical career. While his schooling was limited, he has always been a great reader and student, and is one of the well informed citizens of Jasper County. When only fifteen years of age he started out to make his own way, and there is an interesting account to be told of his first ventures. The first \$10 he earned came from a hard trapping experience. He worked and exposed himself for several weeks in catching muskrats, selling their hides at 10 cents apiece, until he had accumulated the sum of \$10. He promptly invested this little capital in a calf. He had some dreams of fine profit over that calf, but in a few weeks it laid down and died, and the investment would have been a total loss had he not skinned the carcass and sold the pelt for \$1.50. He then invested this in six new steel traps, and began another campaign in trapping muskrats. During the following winter he trapped enough to buy two calves, and this time his enterprise was better rewarded, and he finally sold them for \$40.





That was the way he got his start in the stock raising business. He has had other vicissitudes and ups and downs since then, but as in the first instance he has never allowed discouragement to overwhelm him, and on the whole has been steadily prospering and now enjoys the income and fruitage of a good farm and a good business in the live stock trade.

By the time he was twenty-five he had gathered together a considerable number of live stock, and was then ready to start a home of his own. He married Bertha E. Pettet, a daughter of Jacob P. and Sarah Ann (Stuts) Pettet. Into their home have been born eight children, namely: Orvis is still unmarried; Perry, who was bitten by a rattlesnake while in Gillam Township, and died twenty-four hours later; Eva, John, Perry, Pet, Martha, and Liliy; all of whom are living and still single.

In politics Mr. Joseph Salrin is a democrat and has done much in a public spirited manner to advance the interests of his home community. He held the office of township trustee for one term, in which time he advanced the local school system, and as township supervisor built the first six miles of stone road in Walker Township. He has steadily and consistently been a good road advocate for many years. He is also the principal petitioner and supporter of the largest drainage ditch ever built in Jasper County.

JOSEPH A. SMITH is one of the progressive farmers of Walker Township whose practical example has meant much to that community as it would have meant to any community, and since he is still a young man there is promise of many years of useful labor both for himself and family and for the entire community. What he has accomplished has been self-reliance and industry, without fear or favor, and there is something stimulating and encouraging in such a career for every younger man.

Born January 28, 1879, in Walker Township of Jasper County, he is a son of Grover and Lottie (Ferrel) Smith. The six children among whom he was one were: Joseph; Mary, now deceased; Mattie, who is married; Grover, Jr., who is married and has a home of his own; Bessie, deceased; and Francis. The father of these children spent practically all his life in planting and some commercial work and was a republican in politics.

As a boy Joseph A. Smith attended such local schools as were in his vicinity, but supplemented these advantages by study at home. He is a student, a keen observer, and has never failed to take advantage of his own experiences and lessons which he could learn from his neighbors and from any other available source. When he started out in life at the age of twenty-one he had nothing in the way of capital though he possessed more than an ordinary equipment of ambition, sturdy industry, and good habits. It is not strange that he is now numbered among the most progressive farmers and business men of Jasper County, though only thirty-six years of age.



In politics he is a republican. He supports every public enterprise which he believes will bring benefit not only to himself but to his neighbors, and has been especially interested in the schools which will educate the future generation. For the past four years he has occupied the old Ferrel homestead in Walker Township, and in that time has carried out many of his cherished plans and ideals in order to make it a farm equal to the best found in that section of the county.

On January 29, 1900, at Winathfield he married Miss Lena Yeiter, a daughter of Frederick and Eureka (Hulsworth) Yeiter. The eight children in the Yeiter family are as follows: Christina, Emma, Fred, Rosa, William, Georgia, Louisa, and Lena. Of these Georgia is now deceased, while all the others are married and have homes of their own. They were all born in Tippecanoe County, and gained part of their education there, though the youngest finished in Jasper County.

**FRANK E. LEWIS.** One of the best known figures in railroad circles of Northern Indiana is Frank E. Lewis, general manager of the Chicago & Wabash Valley Railroad, a line which is at present a feeder of the Monon Railway and which was originally built by B. J. Gifford. The career of Mr. Lewis illustrates forcibly the awards to be gained in railroading by men of energy and perseverance, for he started in the lowly capacity of section hand and has worked his way steadily upward until he is now the incumbent of a position of large responsibility.

Mr. Lewis is a native of Erie County, New York, and was born December 2, 1875, one of the four children (all living) of William and Elizabeth (Law) Lewis, natives respectively of Herkimer County, New York, and the Dominion of Canada. William Lewis, who is a farmer and still resides in the Empire State, is a son of James Lewis, a native of Wales, who came unmarried to America in 1836 and was an employe of the old New York Central System, in which capacity he helped to build the first railroad in New York.

Frank E. Lewis passed his early days on the farm of his parents, attending the public schools and consequently taking a commercial course in a business college at Clarence, New York. He early showed a predilection for railroading, his first work in that line being as a section hand on the New York Central Railroad, a position which he held for about one year. In 1894 he came to Jasper County, Indiana, as an employe of B. J. Gifford, who had just entered upon his great work of improvement in reclaiming the lands of the northern part of the county, and here his first work consisted of helping in the dredge work as common laborer. His faithfulness and industry soon attracted attention and after about one year he was given a position as clerk and bookkeeper by Mr. Gifford, in which position he took care of much detail work, such as keeping





*Edmund*



the time of the employes, making up pay rolls, buying supplies, etc. Two years later he returned to the dredge work to more thoroughly master that end of the business, it being his objective aim to become a "runner," or engineer. In August, 1898, when Mr. Gifford began the building of the railroad, Mr. Lewis was transferred to the engineering corps of that work and continued to be so employed until January, 1899, when the road was put in operation. At that time he was made superintendent of the road, continuing as such until October, 1906, when he was made general superintendent, general freight agent and general passenger agent, and as such practically had full charge of the railroad's affairs. In connection with discharging the duties of these offices he also assisted Mr. Gifford in the general management of his farm lands and his large local interests. In 1912, when Mr. Gifford's health began to fail, Mr. Lewis received the title of general manager, and in March, 1914, when the road was sold to the Monon Railway, that corporation retained him in that position. He continues in that responsible office, with headquarters at Kersey.

Mr. Lewis is a republican in politics and for two years was a member of the Jasper County Council. He is well known in Masonry, having been a charter member of Wheatfield Lodge No. 642, Free and Accepted Masons, of which he was master three terms, and is a member of Rensselaer Chapter No. 130, Royal Arch Masons, and North Judson Council No. 78. He holds membership also in the Knights of Pythias and the Modern Woodmen of America, and has numerous friends in fraternal circles. Mr. Lewis is a member of the Christian Church.

In 1899 Mr. Lewis was married to Miss Jennie Strebelow, of Hersher, Illinois, who died in January, 1901. In 1903 Mr. Lewis was again married, being united with Mrs. Queen Engler, of Monon, Indiana, daughter of Perry Ward, and widow of David Engler. By her marriage with Mr. Engler Mrs. Lewis is the mother of one daughter, Pauline. Mr. and Mrs. Lewis have one son and one daughter: Dorothy and Francis William. Mrs. Lewis is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

**MISS CATHERINE WENRICK.** One of the most interesting women of Jasper County is Miss Catherine Wenrick of Walker Township. She has lived in this county since pioneer times, has witnessed all the changes, and has a record on her own mind of the life and activities of the county and its people covering more than half a century. Under difficulties she has accomplished a great deal in the world, not only in a material way, since for many years she has prosperously conducted some extensive farming operations, but also in deeds of personal charity and kindness to her neighborhood.

She was born March 13, 1848, in Mifflin County, Pennsylvania, a daughter of John and Mary A. (Bumgardner) Wenrick. Her





grandparents were John and Catherine Wenrick, who were married in Center County, Pennsylvania, about 1821, and were the parents of seven children, namely: George, deceased; John; Peter, deceased; Polly; Hannah M., Daniel and William, all deceased. Grandfather John Wenrick followed farming practically all his life. He was a member and active worker in the German Reformed Church.

John Wenrick, Jr., a man of venerable years, still living in Jasper County, was married in Pennsylvania in May, 1847, and in April, 1855, moved to Miami County, Ohio, where he reared his family of nine children. These children were: Catherine; Elizabeth M., and John H., deceased; Noah M., who is married and has a home of his own; Rachel L., deceased; William J., Nancy E., Jacob F., and James W., all of whom are still living and married.

From Ohio John Wenrick moved his family to Jasper County, Indiana, where he arrived December 5, 1868. Thus for nearly half a century this name has been associated with the best interests of the farming and civic community of Walker Township. At that time some of his children were still young and they attended school at the old Hershinan school, which was conducted in a log cabin and represented only the simplest requirements of the educational system of that state. John Wenrick followed farming here the rest of his active career, and has always been a man alert to the advantages of public improvements and a liberal supporter of everything which he believed would be for the benefit of the community at the present and for the future. He became a republican about the time that party came into existence, and was one of its active workers in Jasper County until advanced age. He was formerly affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and has long been identified with the United Brethren Church.

When thirteen years of age Miss Catherine Wenrick suffered injuries which made her a cripple. In her case handicap proved only a spur to increased simple activity and an ambition to do good in the world. Though unable to attend school with other children, she managed to acquire a liberal education by extensive reading and she has never given up study in all her days. She has proved a keen and able business woman, and for a number of years has owned and operated a tract of eighty acres of land in Walker Township, and looks after its management and crops with all the alertness of former years. She has an interesting fund of reminiscences concerning the early times in Walker Township, and has lived to witness practically every phase of its development since pioneer conditions.

MARTIN V. SANDS. This honored old soldier is one of the early settlers of Kankakee Township, where he has had his home on a constantly improving and more valuable farm for more than forty years. He has done his full share toward the development of Jasper County and when it is recalled that he served faithfully as a



soldier for three years during the dark days of the Civil war, his patriotism and public spirit are beyond all question.

Born March 30, 1842, in Harrison County, Indiana, Martin V. Sands is a son of Dallas and Elizabeth (Musselkaum) Sands. Altogether there were twelve children in his parents' family, namely: Mary, Daniel, Sarah, Maria, Tiny, Isaac, William, Martin, Martha, James, John, and Rebecca. The only ones still living are Maria, Martin, John, and Rebecca. Dallas Sands, the father, was a good type of the rugged and wholesome pioneer of early Indiana days. He was a farmer and gave to that vocation his best years. In politics he was a whig and was a member of the Baptist Church. He died and was laid to rest on the old homestead in Harrison Township in 1855.

In the meantime Martin V. Sands had passed the period of childhood and early youth, had attended such schools as were available in his time and section of Indiana, and was a little past nineteen when in August, 1861, he enlisted in Company B of the Forty-fifth Regiment of Indiana Cavalry. He saw three years of arduous service. He was in the battle of Antietam, fought during those campaigns which resulted in so many reverses to the Union troops up to and including Fredericksburg, and then became a unit in the great army which was revitalized and made efficient by the great soldier, Grant. He fought in the battle of the Wilderness at Gettysburg, and in the battles before Petersburg. About that time he was mustered out of service at Indianapolis, in 1864.

Following his record as a soldier Mr. Sands returned to the old homestead in Harrison County, and while living there, on March 30, 1866, he married Miss Lydia Miller. They began their married life in Southern Illinois, where they lived for six years, but in 1872 established their home in Jasper County. Mr. Sands bought eighty acres in Kankakee Township, and with that as a nucleus he has continued his residence and his farming activities there ever since. In politics he has followed the natural course of a soldier who fought for the preservation of the Union, and has always been a republican. His name has been identified with local politics for a number of years, and for eight years he served as township supervisor. His own success as a farmer has commended him to the confidence of his fellow citizens, and he has made his influence count in many ways for better schools, better roads and all improvements.

While in many other ways his life has been so satisfactory, Mr. Sands also finds pleasure in the fact that his family line is established for succeeding generations. He and his wife reared a family of nine children: Hattie, deceased; Addie, who is married; Alice, deceased; Clarence and Marion, both of whom are married; Lydia, still single; Charles and George, both married; and Edward, who is still single.



ISAAC DUNN. It is well for every community to preserve a record of its active and useful citizens, for it gives character to a place and affords example for desirable emulation. In this connection is brought forward the name, life and services of the late Isaac Dunn, one of Jasper County's best known men who, for many years was deeply interested in promoting public improvements and in furthering moral movements. With honest efficiency he served in public office, and the massive iron bridge that spans the Kankakee River is one of the monuments testifying to his public spirit and wise judgment. Largely self educated, for he had but meager opportunities in early youth, he became widely informed through his natural ability, and Jasper County profited by having later so broad-minded a man representing it in the State Legislature and in other public offices.

Isaac Dunn was born about 1823, in Maine, and from there in 1854 came first to Richmond, Indiana, and then to Jasper County. His parents were William and Nancy Dunn and they had twelve children, Isaac being the ninth in order of birth. The full record is as follows: Martha, born July 10, 1806, died in 1816; Harriet, born January 19, 1808; John Wesley, born June 20, 1810; Hannah Freeman, born August 16, 1812; Elvin, born October 17, 1814, died in 1834; Sarah Ann, born February 21, 1817; William Milton, born February 21, 1819, died in 1827; Martha (2), born February 13, 1821; Isaac, born July 4, 1823; Gilbert M., born March 26, 1825; William Milton (2), born October 12, 1827; and Lucius Clark, born June 8, 1829. Of this large family there are but few survivors.

In 1854, in Maine, Isaac Dunn was united in marriage with Miss Nancy B. Coffin, who was born November 15, 1833. Her parents were John and Henrietta (Ballise) Coffin. Immediately after marriage Mr. and Mrs. Dunn came to Indiana and their children, four in number, were born in Jasper County. They had three sons and one daughter: Gilbert, who is deceased; and John, Carrie D., and George, all three of whom now have home circles of their own. They were reared in Jasper County and attended the subscription schools, later the Oak Grove School, and their first teacher was Mrs. Jonathan Winter.

Isaac Dunn was a man of much enterprise and from the time he came to Indiana until his death, in December, 1912, was active in promoting measures that would be of permanent good to his county. He had far more foresight than many of his neighbors and could recognize the value of permanent improvements and progressive legislation when others, of duller intellect, often opposed change. His energy, enterprise and public spirit made him a politician, not for his own advantage but in order that he might be able to wield a wider influence for those things that meant true citizenship to him. He early identified himself with the republican party and by that party was elected county commissioner, in which office he served two terms and during this period was the prime mover in having



two necessary bridges built across the Kankakee River in Kankakee Township, first a wooden structure and later the present fine iron bridge. Still later Mr. Dunn was elected from Jasper County to the State Legislature and served honorably for two terms.

Mr. Dunn was reared in the Methodist faith and throughout his long life was consistent in his religious life. He gave liberally to all benevolent causes and practically built two of the Methodist Episcopal Church edifices in his county. He died at Wheatfield and was laid to rest in the Wheatfield Cemetery, December 8, 1912.

**OSCAR BOYNTON ROCKWELL.** The Rockwells were among the oldest settlers in this section of Indiana, and the name has been familiarly associated with pioneer labors, with good citizenship, with official work, with military service, with farming and many lines of business in Jasper and Newton and Starke counties for several generations.

The Rockwells are of very old American stock. John Rockwell, founder of the family, came from the vicinity of Dorchester, England, where for many previous generations the name had been well known, and on coming to America settled in Stamford, Connecticut, about 1640. The first recorded date of him in this country is December 7, 1641, when he is named as one of the first settlers and received for his home lot two acres and a parcel of woodland. The next record date of him is 1659, when he sold his land there in Stamford and removed to Westchester County, New York, where his death occurred in 1676. This John Rockwell married Elizabeth Weed, of Stamford, Connecticut. Their three children were John Rockwell, Jr., Sarah, and Mehitabel. Thomas Rockwell, who was a son of John Rockwell, Jr., married on December 19, 1703, Sarah Resco. Their three children were named Sarah, Thomas, and Jabez. Thomas Rockwell died in June, 1712, in Norwalk, New York.

Jabez Rockwell married Elizabeth Sperry. On May 9, 1775, Jabez Rockwell enlisted in the Seventh Company of the Sixth Regiment under Col. Samuel H. Parsons, and served as a soldier during most of the years of the War of the American Revolution. He and his wife had the following children: Benjamin, Levi, Betsey, and Eli.

In a later generation, the seventh after the founding of the family in America, is Levi Clark Rockwell. Levi Clark Rockwell was born in New York State August 1, 1809. He married Ruth Pamela Knapp on December 29, 1835. She was born November 18, 1816. This family moved from New York to Montgomery County, Indiana, in the spring of 1854, but in the fall of the same year Levi C. Rockwell bought a 160-acre tract of land in Jasper County, Indiana, in Kankakee Township. He acquired this land direct from the Government, and on March 10, 1855, the family moved to Jasper County and established their home on the recently acquired quarter-section. This land, which has undergone many changes and improvements, is still owned by members of the Rock-





well family, its present occupant being Mrs. Ida Rockwell Faylon, daughter of Levi Clark Rockwell. Levi Clark Rockwell and wife had eight children: Oscar Boynton, Wallace Harrington, Alphonso Page, Francis Marion, Edward Stoddard, George Shelly, Ida Erwin, and Holcomb Vanny. Levi Clark Rockwell, their father, died at San Pierre, Indiana, July 10, 1897, while his wife was laid to rest October 7, 1890.

Oscar Boynton Rockwell, the oldest of the family, is an old soldier, a prominent farmer and citizen, active and well known not only in Jasper County and Kankakee Township but in Starke County, grew to manhood in Jasper County, on the old homestead already mentioned. In 1860 he was elected trustee of Kankakee Township for a two year term. He resigned this office and on September 11, 1861, enlisted as a private in Company C of the Twenty-ninth Indiana Volunteer Infantry for a term of three years or during the war. On the reorganization of this regiment he was made corporal. He was wounded in the battle of Stone River or Murfreesboro, Tennessee, December 31, 1862, but soon recovered and was on the march with his command. On December 16, 1863, he veteranized and re-enlisted in the same regiment at Bridgeport, Alabama. In May, 1864, he was appointed first or orderly sergeant of Company C of the Twenty-ninth Regiment and was commissioned captain of Company F in the same regiment on January 1, 1865. He continued with his command in some of the most strenuous campaigns of the war, particularly through Tennessee, Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia, and received an honorable discharge at Marietta, Georgia, December 2, 1865. After the war he returned home and took up a career as farmer and stock raiser, which has employed much of his energy and which has been the basis for his considerable success and prosperity. Many of his years have also been demanded by his fellow citizens. He served four years from 1868 to 1872 as trustee of Kankakee Township. For eight years, from 1907 to 1915, he was county assessor of Starke County, Indiana. In politics he is a loyal republican.

Oscar B. Rockwell married Louisa Gannon. To their union were born four children: Grant R.; Louisa B., now deceased; Arthur E.; and Elmer H. The three living children are all married.

**DAVID MILLER.** It is one of the oldest families of Jasper County that furnished material for this brief sketch. David Miller himself has lived in Walker Township of Jasper County ever since he was twenty-one years of age, and his recollection of local events and incidents covers a period of almost half a century. The various members of the Miller family, while they have pursued somewhat uneventful lives, have been industrious, thrifty, honorable in all their relations, and on the whole have done a greater service to the community through the exercise of such virtues than many men who receive greater space in newspaper accounts.



The Miller family came to Indiana from Mahoning County, Ohio, where David Miller was born October 2, 1816, and his parents were Peter L. and Lydia (Dutcher) Miller. They were married about 1830, and became the parents of nine children: Levi, Martha Magdalena, Elizabeth and Susan, all now deceased; Mary, Lydia, David, Catherine and Sarah Ann, all of whom are married and are still alive. Peter L. Miller, the father, a great many years ago owned and operated a grist mill and carding machine, and all did carpenter work in Mahoning County, Ohio, and from there came to Harrison County, Indiana, where in addition to his work as a farmer he employed his skill as a carpenter in the building of many houses and barns in that locality. All the children were born in Mahoning County and gained their education in whole or in part in the local schools there, though the youngest of them attended school in Harrison County, Indiana. Peter L. Miller was originally a whig in politics but became identified with the republican party on its organization and was a very loyal exponent of its principles ever afterward. The son Levi, enlisted in Company K of the Eighty-first Indiana Volunteer Infantry in 1862 for three years. He fell ill and died while in the service and was buried in the Arlington Cemetery at Washington, in 1863.

It was in March, 1867, that the Miller family came into Jasper County, headed by Peter L. Miller, the father. He settled in Walker Township, occupying about eighty acres of the old John Dillingham homestead. Here he spent a number of years as a farmer, and his labors went into the early development of the county and he performed one of those units of service out of which have been evolved the great material prosperity of this section as it is today. Peter L. Miller was laid to rest in November, 1879, at San Pierre, Indiana, and his beloved wife followed him in June, 1881.

David Miller completed his education in the common schools of Harrison County, Indiana. He lived with his parents, worked industriously on the farm, and helped them develop a new home in Jasper County. When he was twenty-six years of age he took up an independent career. December 10, 1872, he married Martha J. Biggs, daughter of Isaac Biggs, of a well known Jasper County family. There were four children by this union: Emmons M., William E., John A., and Bertha N., all of whom are married except Emmons. The mother of these children passed away July 6, 1882, and was laid to rest in Pulaski County. With the care of young children upon him David Miller continued to maintain his home and work his farm alone until December 10, 1883, when he married Rebecca Seegrist. There were also four children by this union: Charles E., unmarried; Benjamin F., still single; Nancy N., deceased; and David P. Mr. Miller and his good wife have done much to educate their children and train them properly for places of usefulness in the world.

Since early manhood David Miller has consistently voted with



the republican party and has been one of the men of influence in his section of the state. He has supported every public enterprise, has worked to improve the material aspect of Walker Township, and endeavored to make his own farm as highly productive as possible so as to serve as an example for others in the same occupation. He and his family have long been identified with the Methodist Episcopal Church, and he assisted toward building two churches in Tefft. For thirteen years he served as Sunday school superintendent, was a trustee for years and also steward. In the early days Mr. Miller earned most of his ready money by cutting railroad ties and putting up wild hay. He has a good many interesting recollections of the old stage line that at one time ran over the road by the homestead. In the early days as he can remember railroad ties were practically legal tender in this section of Indiana, as much so as coon skins had been at a still earlier epoch in pioneer life.

**ISAAC KIGHT.** Now engaged in the general merchandise business in the Village of Fair Oaks, Isaac Kight has been a resident at Newton and Jasper counties for nearly half a century and has contributed his quota to civic and industrial development and progress. He has been active and influential as a loyal and public-spirited citizen and since establishing his present business enterprise he has served as trustee of Union Township.

Isaac Kight was born in Scotland County, Missouri, on the 16th of November, 1846, the fourth in order of birth in a family of seven children, of whom five are now living. He is a son of Joseph and Maria (Nichols) Kight, both natives of Ohio and representatives of pioneer families of the old Buckeye State. Joseph Kight, when a young man became a pioneer settler in Missouri, where he engaged in agricultural pursuits. When news came of the discovery of gold in California, he became one of the intrepid argonauts who ventured across the plains and made their way to the New Eldorado. He made the long and weary journey as a representative of an ox-team caravan, and he remained about eighteen months in California, where he was successful in his quest for the precious metal. He returned to his home, but died shortly afterward, as a result of typhoid fever, which he had contracted while absent in the far West.

Isaac Kight was a boy at the time of his father's death, and when nine years of age he accompanied his widowed mother and the other children to the home of his maternal grandfather, in Momence, Illinois. There he was reared to adult age and there he duly availed himself of the advantages of the common schools of the period. As a youth he assisted in the work of his grandfather's farm, and after attaining to his legal majority he continued his activities as a farm workman in the employ of others. In 1867, accompanied by his mother and other members of the family, Mr. Kight came to Indiana and established his residence at Beaver Lake,



Newton County, where he engaged in the raising of and dealing in cattle. Later his mother removed to Lake Village, that county, and there she continued to maintain her home until her death, in 1893, at a venerable age. Mr. Kight was a pioneer in the live-stock industry in this section of Indiana and recalls the time when the conditions were those of a virtual unbroken prairie and swamp country. Wild game was plentiful, and in the early days he trapped fur-bearing animals, killed deer and brought down other wild game in what is now a thickly settled and opulent section of the Hoosier State. He and his brother William T. killed seventy-eight swan in a single afternoon, their firearms being muzzle-loading shot-guns of the oldtime type.

In 1874 Mr. Kight removed to a large tract of land one mile west of the present Village of Fair Oaks, and he continued his activities as a farmer and stock-grower in Newton County until 1897, when he came to Jasper County and established his home at Fair Oaks, where he has since remained and where he had become interested in the mercantile business in 1893. With this line of enterprise he has been successfully identified at this place during the intervening period of nearly a quarter of a century, and he is senior member of the firm of Kight & Eggleston, which has a large and well equipped general store and controls a substantial and profitable trade.

In politics Mr. Kight is a stalwart advocate of the cause of the democratic party, and he served ten years as trustee of Colfax Township, Newton County. In 1908 he was elected trustee of Union Township, Jasper County, and by successive re-elections he continued the incumbent of this office for a period of six years. Both he and his wife are earnest members of the Methodist Episcopal Church in their home village, and they have a wide circle of friends in both Jasper and Newton counties.

On the 8th of January, 1874, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Kight to Miss Eliza Spry, daughter of the late Enoch and Mary (Burton) Spry, who removed from Kentucky to Kankakee County, Illinois, in 1855, and who came to Newton County, Indiana, in 1867. Mr. and Mrs. Kight have three children: Allen G., married Miss Alice Peck and they reside on a farm in Jasper County; Stella is the wife of Michael Shehan and they maintain their home at Monon, this state; and John T. and his wife, whose maiden name was Pearl Dodge, reside in the City of Indianapolis.

**ELIAS HAMMERTON.** For many years the name of Hammerton has been known and respected in Jasper County, Indiana, and no more worthy bearer of this name could have been found than was the late Elias Hammerton, who passed out of life at his home in Rensselaer, in October, 1911. He was born in England, June 29, 1841, and was a son of John and Anne Hammerton, who reared eight children.

In England, the Hammertons were agriculturists and when they





came to the United States in 1854, they sought desirable farming land, finding it in Iroquois County, Illinois. Elias Hammerton was then thirteen years of age, old enough to give his father material assistance on his pioneer farm, and there the young man remained until the outbreak of the Civil war. In 1861 he enlisted for service in the Federal army, and for three long years bravely faced the dangers of war, taking part in such notable battles as Shiloh and the siege of Vicksburg. It was his good fortune to escape serious injury and after his term of enlistment had expired he returned to his home in Illinois and resumed farming.

Elias Hammerton was married twice, first to Lucinda Rader, and second to Mrs. Sadie Sullivan. His eleven children were born to his first marriage and eight of these are yet living. In 1874, with his father and his own family, he moved to Jasper County, Indiana, settling in Hanging Grove Township and engaging there in farming for a number of years. Later in life he moved to Rensselaer but not to retire, for afterward, for thirteen years he served as carrier on rural mail routes. Of a deeply religious nature, he became prominent in the Methodist Episcopal Church and during the greater part of his life served in some official capacity, such as Sunday school superintendent, steward and class leader. Honesty of word and deed was a part of his nature and his practical ideas of charity made him dependable when deserving objects came to his attention. He cast his political influence with the republican party. For many years he was an Odd Fellow and almost from its organization was a member of the Grand Army of the Republic.

GEORGE HENRY HAMMERTON. As a trustee of Union Township and a leading merchant at Parr, Indiana, George H. Hammerton may justly be called one of the representative men of Jasper County. He was born August 26, 1873, in Iroquois County, Illinois, and thus was but one year old when his parents, Elias and Lucinda (Rader) Hammerton, came to Jasper County. He grew up on his father's farm and until he was seventeen years of age assisted during the summer months and attended the public schools during the winters. He remained with his father until he was twenty-one years old and then assumed the direction of his own affairs, about this time entering the Northern Indiana Normal School at Valparaiso, where he continued, at intervals, to be a student for two years. During this time he began to teach school, his first experience being in Hanging Grove Township, and for sixteen years he remained in the educational field, teaching four terms in Jasper County and the rest of the time in Iroquois and Vermilion counties, Illinois. In the meantime he had purchased a farm in Union Township, which he operated for two years and then sold and came to Parr, where, in 1912, he embarked in a mercantile business which enterprise has proved a satisfactory investment. As a merchant he is no less popular than he was as a teacher and the general confidence



and esteem in which he is held has been practically proved by his election to responsible public office. In politics he is a republican and in 1914 on that ticket he was elected a trustee of Union Township and his performance of duty has been efficient in every way.

On September 27, 1903, George H. Hammerton was united in marriage with Miss Rosa Chupp, and they have three children: Gladys Edith, Cecil Lawrence and Winifred Glen. Mr. and Mrs. Hammerton are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. He is identified fraternally with the Odd Fellows and with the Modern Woodmen of America.

**JOSEPH STEWART.** Ever since he established his home in Hanging Grove Township a little more than a quarter of a century ago Joseph Stewart has been a factor in local progress. One evidence of this in the fine stone road,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  miles in length, which extends in front of his farm and is known as the Joe Stewart Road. There is no improvement of greater moment to a live and progressive rural community than good roads. Good roads typify the vital health of a district, just as bad roads indicate sloth and backwardness. If he had performed no other service in the township, Joseph Stewart would deserve much credit for his work in behalf of improved highways. It was he and Robert S. Drake who got up the petition for the C. C. Randle or Rensselaer Road, which was the first improved highway in Hanging Grove Township.

Though the greater part of his active career has been spent in Jasper County, Joseph Stewart was born in Richland County, near Mansfield, Ohio, June 6, 1855, a son of William and Rhoda (Stewart) Stewart, both of whom are natives of the same state and were of Scotch-Irish descent. Joseph Stewart grew up in Ohio, gained his education there, and for a few years lived in Michigan. He then returned to Ohio and in Williams County in that state near Bryan he married in 1877, Rachel Tressler, a daughter of Joseph and Catherine Tressler, who were natives of Pennsylvania and of German stock.

For twelve years after their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Stewart continued to live in Ohio, and in 1889 came to Hanging Grove Township and settled on a farm in section 26. Mr. Stewart has a highly improved and valuable place of eighty acres, situated  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles north of Lee.

Five children have constituted their home circle, though the four who are now living are all married and settled in homes of their own. Arthur E., the oldest, lives in Hanging Grove Township and married Harriet Jordan. Bessie A. is the wife of John Jordan and also lives in Hanging Grove. Olin S. is a Methodist Episcopal pastor at Waveland, Indiana, and married Ethel Pearson. Rollin J. lives in Hanging Grove Township and married Hazel Drake.

The deceased child was Claude J., who was next to the youngest. From an article that appeared in the local papers at the time of his



death the following quotation is made: "Claude J. Stewart, son of Joseph and Rachel Stewart, was born near West Jefferson, Ohio, April 22, 1884. In 1889 he moved with his family to Hanging Grove township, Jasper county. In infancy he was consecrated to God by his Christian parents in baptism and at the age of eleven he joined the Methodist Episcopal church at Osborne, and was received into full connection with that branch of the church. While at the breakfast table June 27, 1905, he was seized with an alarming hemorrhage and died in less than twenty minutes, at the age of twenty-one years two months and five days. It is only simple truth when we say that Brother Claude was a good and upright young man, a thoughtful son, a kind friend to all, and a quiet humble Christian. All who knew him testify to his kindly disposition, his excellent character and standard of honor. An attack of the measles left him with a cough from which he never fully recovered, though he spent two winters in Oklahoma with a view of regaining his health. He was at no time confined to his bed with protracted sickness. Yet for several months before his departure he realized that he had not long to live. This was indicated by his life of prayer and his selection of the beautiful hymn *The Home of the Soul* to be sung at his funeral. The esteem in which he was held was indicated by the very large concourse of sympathizing friends in attendance at the funeral and numerous beautiful floral offerings. The Sabbath school class of which he was a member attended in a body with their offerings of flowers. The funeral services were held in the home conducted by his pastor Rev. W. H. Fertis. The interment was in the Osborne cemetery."

It has been a somewhat active part that Mr. Stewart has played in local politics since coming to Jasper County. He is a democrat, has been a township committeeman four or five years, served on the township advisory board six years, filled the office of township trustee four years, and was for six years township supervisor. He is now serving as superintendent of the Erb ditch through his locality. Both he and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church at Lee, of which he was a trustee, and is now superintendent of the Sunday school.

**FRANCIS E. MARION.** No richer or more productive land in Indiana can be found than that embraced in the agricultural districts of Barkley Township, and a fine farm near the Village of Parr northwest of Rensselaer gives illustration of the thrift and energy which have characterized the life of Francis E. Marion. Mr. Marion has spent nearly all his life in Jasper County, having been a resident fully half a century and has made his work and his example count for good in the community.

A native of Illinois, where he was born July 31, 1860, he is a son of Elias and Sarah (Farmer) Marion. They were both born in Ohio, and were the parents of nine children, the names of seven



of them being John Leslie, Mary Elizabeth, Eliza Jane, Francis E., Isaac Britton, George Washington, and Laura Belle. Elias Marion was born in 1835 and died March 31, 1901. A farmer by occupation, during his long residence in Jasper County he acquired a large tract of land in Barkley Township. He was an active republican, and for twenty five years filled the office of justice of the peace in his home township. Both he and his wife were working members of the Methodist Church, and his wife lived to a ripe old age.

On September 28, 1860, Francis E. Marion married Hannah M. Davis. They were married by Squire Marion, his father. She was the daughter of James M. and Sidney (Taylor) Davis, who came from Ohio to Indiana, first locating in Boone County, and in 1885 coming to Jasper County, where they found a small home of twenty acres on a part of the Hamilton homestead. Mr. Davis is remembered for his hard working ability, and he prospered as a farmer and provided well for his family of ten children, whose names were Mary, Luther, Lucinda, Joseph MacD., Kadilda, Eliza Jane, Sarah Elizabeth, Hannah M., and Emma Josephine.

Mr. and Mrs. Marion had three children born to their marriage. Sidney, the oldest, is now deceased. Stella Josephine was married October 2, 1910, at Rensselaer to Roy Beaver, and they are now engaged in farming in this county. The youngest is Elias Estel.

The Marion home in Barkley Township comprises 100 acres, and it is a farm that in value and character of improvements measures well up to the standard set by the best places in this section of Indiana. Mr. Marion is a strong republican, and served five years as school director. He and his wife are members of the Methodist Church. Having spent all his life since he was three years of age in Jasper County, he has naturally been a witness to all the important phases of its development. He recalls many of the old time methods of farming, and modern agricultural machinery had hardly come into any general use even during his early manhood. Just back of where his country residence now stands there existed in his boyhood a large marsh, and he recalls how the eagles used to circle around this marsh and occasionally dart down among the reeds and seize their prey. Around the old home of his boyhood the wolves used to howl at night, and practically within his lifetime have been effected the transformations which have wrought a peaceful smiling landscape of farms and villages out of Jasper County.

**HORACE G. DANIELS.** It is one of the oldest and best known families of Barkley Township that Horace Daniels is a representative, and his own active career has been pursued with substantial benefit to himself and the community for more than thirty years.

Born August 28, 1865, on the old Daniels homestead in Jasper County, he is a son of Shelby and Mary (English) Daniels, who were early settlers of Jasper County, having come to this section from Ohio, and secured a quarter-section of land direct from the





Government. Horace was the youngest of eight children, the others being Martha, William, Ellen, Rhoda, George, Charles, and Thomas.

When Horace Daniels was still an infant his mother died, and his father died when Horace was about twelve years of age. Both he and his brother, George, attended the old Burns school in Barkley Township and his early education was limited in time of attendance and in quality of instruction. After growing up to manhood Horace Daniels married, in 1888, Malinda Pullins, daughter of John and Mary Pullins. Mrs. Daniels died April 8, 1892, having been the mother of two children: Chattie, now deceased; and Mary, who is married and lives in a home of her own. Mr. Daniels was married October 11, 1894, to Cerilda Ginn. They also have two children, named Dora and Omar. Mr. Daniels is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, No. 143, at Rensselaer, Indiana.

ADELBERT EIB. That men not yet past middle life should have witnessed the transformation of important sections of our well settled country from primitive and careless conditions to the present state of most modern improvement in numerous directions, seems, at first sight, unusual, but it must be remembered that the transportation facilities for so long a time interfered with agricultural development and with the building of good roads prosperity and improvement have gone hand in hand. As the prosperous farmers of today transport their stock and produce to market expeditiously and easily, and, with great personal comfort roll over the smooth highways in their speedy vehicles, few would be willing to go back to the time, not so far distant, when, in Jasper County, Indiana, there was not a single stone or gravel road. This time is well remembered by Adelbert Eib, one of the county's leading farmers, who has always been much interested in the subject of good roads, as he has been in many other lines of improvement.

Adelbert Eib was born in Will County, Illinois, June 15, 1852, and is a son of August and Jane (Evans) Eib. August Eib was born June 19, 1820, at Clarksburg, in West Virginia. From there he went to Pennsylvania and from that state drove overland to Illinois and settled on a homestead of 160 acres in Will County, where he followed farming during the rest of his life. In 1851, in Will County, he married Jane Evans, an admirable woman in every relation of life. Of their six children, Adelbert was the first born, the others being: Peter, William, Louetta, Owen, and Charles, the last two being deceased. The parents of this family were members of the Presbyterian Church, good and worthy people. The father was a democrat in his political views.

Adelbert Eib obtained his education in Will County and well remembers the little log schoolhouse that stood in the timber. In 1877 he started out on his own resources as a farmer and as he was capable, industrious and prudent, soon acquired land and stock and continued an agricultural life in Will County until the spring of



1806, when he removed to Jasper County, Indiana, with his family, buying the old Stiers homestead of 160 acres, situated in Hanging Grove Township. Later on he removed to the old Chris Arnold homestead in Barclay Township. Those who are acquainted with Mr. Eib know that he has always heartily supported public enterprises of all kinds and has been much interested in the securing of good roads.

On October 10, 1878, Mr. Eib was united in marriage with Miss Rebecca Grimpe, who was born in Will County and is a daughter of Henry and Mahala (Haughan)\*Grimpe. Mr. and Mrs. Eib have five children: Lottie, Herbert, Jennie, Alice, and Rollin. Lottie is the wife of George Wright, of Lardner, Illinois, but they live in Traill County, North Dakota. Mr. Eib was anxious to give his children educational advantages and they attended school in Will County but finished their school courses after coming to Jasper County.

Mr. Eib and family belong to the Baptist Church. In politics he is a democrat. He can tell many interesting stories of both Will and Jasper County and of how his father's homestead of 160 acres was developed by hard work, and of his subsequent activities in the line of improvement since coming to Jasper County.

JAMES M. TORBET. Among those farms which give a distinctive character to Barkley Township one of the most noteworthy is owned by James M. Torbet, who though comparatively a newcomer in Jasper County has so usefully and influentially identified himself with the life and affairs of that locality that he is one of the best known and best esteemed citizens.

He was born in Jennings County, Indiana, July 14, 1851. His parents were James M., Sr., and Isabelle (Latimore) Torbet, who were married in 1830 and had five children, named Robert S., John L., Allison, Isabelle, and James M. Of these the only ones now living are Isabelle and James M. The father died in March, 1862, and the mother in August, 1875.

As a boy James M. Torbet spent his days in his native county, attended local schools, and prepared himself for the serious business of life by a regular and rugged discipline on the home farm. His arrival in Jasper County was dated February 24, 1899, which date he settled on the George Kessler place in Barkley Township.

On September 4, 1876, Mr. Torbet married Hattie Bradley, daughter of Daniel and Ellen (Hamilton) Bradley. In the Bradley family there were six children, named Florence, Jennie, Hattie, Anna, Joseph, and Minnie. Mr. and Mrs. Torbet, in addition to gaining a material prosperity which does them credit, have brought into the world and have tenderly cared for a family of ten children. The names of this large household are: Nellie, Maggie, Ethel, Bluford W., Leroy, Flossie, John, Chloe, Creola, and Charles. They are all still living, and are all married except the three youngest.



By hard work as a farmer continued over a period of more than forty years, James M. Torbet has won a commendable prosperity, and now owns a large tract of well improved and valuable land in Jasper County. In politics he follows the example of his father and has always voted the republican ticket, and in Jasper County is well known for his service covering six years in the office of township advisor. During his official term a number of important improvements were made in the town, and he can well take satisfaction in the fact that he has helped in the forward movement in this coming section of Western Indiana.

ELIAS ARNOLD. Members of the Arnold family have been very closely identified with the work of improvement and advancement in Barkley Township. It is said that among the best frame houses constructed in that township was that put up by a member of this family, and people came from miles around in order to inspect and admire this unusual home. This family also took the lead in putting down tile draining, and this spirit of progressiveness has been one of the characteristics of the residence of Elias Arnold in the township.

Born June 23, 1864, in Wabash County, Indiana, Elias Arnold is a son of Andrew and Lydia (Flora) Arnold, who were married in October, 1843, and became the parents of eleven children. The names of these children were: Noah F., deceased; Henry; Barbara, deceased; Andrew H., deceased; John; Susie; Charles; Christian F., deceased; Elias; Lora B.; and Aaron, deceased. The father of these children was a very ardent republican, and a man who stood very high in the esteem of all who knew him. The family moved to Jasper County, and for fully half a century the name has been one of recognized standing in that community.

On February 13, 1890, in Jasper County, Elias Arnold married Susie V. Lesh. Her parents were J. M. and Catherine (Petty) Lesh, who were married March 12, 1868, and came to Jasper County in February, 1889, from Preble County, Ohio. Mrs. Arnold was one of four children: John, Susie V., George S., and Daniel E., all of whom are still living.

Into the home of Mr. and Mrs. Elias Arnold were born six children: Harry J., Catherine E., Sylvanus A., Marie, Bethel L., and David Elias, all of whom are living, while Harry, Marie, and Catherine are now married.

Barkley Township has had no more effective advocate of good roads and good schools than Elias Arnold. He was able to accomplish a great deal of practical work along those lines of improvement during his four years of service as township trustee. Since leaving the office of trustee he has been a member of the advisory board. In politics he is a republican and his family have long been identified with the German Baptist Church.



GRANT DAVISSEN. An excellent illustration of what perseverance, constancy, sobriety, industry and self reliance, when combined with a high sense of moral responsibility, will accomplish, is found in the career of this worthy citizen of Barkley Township, who has steadfastly adhered to his occupation of farming in this community. In this quality of perseverance, fixedness of purpose, the undeviating pursuit of a plan of action, is contained the secrets of success in multitudes of cases, and to this, in conjunction with the other sterling traits already mentioned, is attributable the creditable and prosperous career of Grant Davisson.

Mr. Davisson was born May 18, 1805, in Carroll County, Indiana, and is a son of Lewis and Hepsibah (Haynes) Davisson. His father was born in Johnson County, Indiana; on the banks of Sugar Creek, and in 1849 moved to Jasper County, where he followed the vocation of farming for some years. Later, however, he returned to the trade of his youth, that of millwright, and after spending some years in Carroll County came back to Jasper County and conducted the sawmill and corn cracker. This was the only mill of the time in Barkley Township and at grinding time the farmers for miles around would bring their grain, the grinding of which into meal generally consumed two days and often longer. Lewis Davisson was an industrious farmer and good business man, and his sterling integrity of character made him one of his community's foremost citizens. A staunch democrat in politics, he was an enthusiastic worker in his party's ranks and was elected township trustee of Barkley township, a capacity in which he served capably for two years. His religious faith was that of the Methodist Church, in the faith of which both he and the mother died. They were the parents of nine children, namely: Elijah, Hannah, George, Mary E., Amos, Grant, Harvey, Josiah and Martha, the last named being deceased.

The early education of Grant Davisson was secured in the district schools of Jasper County, but when he was ten years of age he was brought to Jasper County, and here completed his schooling in Barkley Township. He grew up to agricultural operations, and has been identified therewith all of his life, now having a handsome and valuable property in the vicinity of Parr. He was married in this township, December 22, 1887, to Miss Virginia C. Remley, daughter of Samuel and Hannah (Lain) Remley. Mr. Remley was born August 27, 1831, and died August 25, 1903, when lacking two days of being seventy-two years old, while Mrs. Remley was born March 20, 1831, and died August 13, 1888, aged fifty-seven years, four months, twenty-three days. They came from Bartholomew County, Indiana, to Jasper County in 1865, settling in Barkley Township, where Mr. Remley followed the pursuits of farming and stockraising and through a life of industry and perseverance was able to accumulate a valuable tract of land. He was a democrat in politics, although not an office holder, and he and Mrs. Remley were members of the United Brethren Church.





Mr. and Mrs. Davisson are the parents of one daughter, Frances May, who married Rudolph Ritter, a farmer of Barkley Township. Mr. Davisson is a democrat in political matters and has been somewhat active in political affairs. He has served his township two terms in the office of township trustee and in the discharge of his official duties has shown his interest in the welfare of his township. With Mrs. Davisson he belongs to the Methodist Church.

ISAAC D. WALKER and the farming property upon which he makes his home in Barkley Township, Jasper County, have developed together, and the evolution of the former from a simple young husbandman in modest circumstances into an intelligent and wide-awake exponent of twentieth century agriculture, has been not more pronounced than has the transformation which has come over this valuable tract of fertile land. Mr. Walker has resided here since 1865, when the country was still sparsely settled, there being at that time but one house between his home and what is now the community of Wheatfield, and his intelligent and well-directed labors have aided materially in bringing about the great transformation that has marked the development of one of Jasper County's most productive townships.

Mr. Walker was born January 1, 1839, in Johnson County, Indiana, and is a son of Samuel and Emmeline (Wilson) Walker. His father was born in Bourbon County, Kentucky, where he spent his early life, subsequently moving in young manhood to Johnson County, Indiana, where he became a pioneer and where the rest of his life was passed in farming. He was a steady, industrious man, but did not live long enough to accumulate a property of any proportions, as his death occurred in August, 1841. His widow was left with three small children: Nancy Ann, Isaac D. and Mahala, of whom only Isaac D. survives.

Isaac D. Walker was an infant of two years when his father died, and as a lad he was compelled to work hard to assist in the support of his mother and sisters. However, he secured a fairly good education in the public schools of Johnson County, where the family resided until 1852, in which year the mother sold the farm and married Walker W. Pritchard. In that same year the family came to Jasper County and settled on the old McCallock farm, and the children were sent to the old Smith schoolhouse for three winters, this being one of the primitive schools of the day, built of logs, with split logs for benches and the same material used for the shelf that ran around the wall and served as a desk. Thus equipped, Isaac D. Walker embarked in farming on his own account in 1865, on the old Joseph S. Stockton place, in Barkley Township, where he has continued to make his home ever since. He was not possessed of much capital when he began his operations, but he had received a good training, was industrious and energetic and was possessed of ambitions and determination, and when the first few



years had passed he was well on the road to success. As the years have passed he has added from time to time to his acreage, has kept his land fertile through modern methods, and has added to his buildings and equipment as his finances have permitted, so that today he is the owner of a handsome and valuable property, all gained through the medium of his own efforts.

Shortly after engaging in farming for himself, January 26, 1866, Mr. Walker was united in marriage with Miss Mary A. Smith, daughter of John A. and Nancy A. (Kenton) Smith, and to this union there have been born nine children, namely: Edward, Inez O., Charles, Mahala, Maude, Belle, Evaline, Grace and Victor A., of whom Evaline is deceased. All the survivors are married. Mr. Walker is a republican in his political allegiance and has been a factor in the success of his party in his locality. He has served capably for six terms as township supervisor, and has been a staunch supporter of all public enterprises calculated to be of benefit to the community and its people.

MRS. MARGARET J. LEWIS. In a list of the prominent citizens of any community today mention is made of women as well as men, for whether they are active in the business world or not, the high position of women as a factor in civilization is being recognized as it has never been before. Therefore in any account of those who have played a part in the history of Jasper County, Mrs. Margaret J. Lewis should have a place. Mrs. Lewis has lived in this county for more than half a century, was one of the patient and kindly and capable teachers of some of its pioneer schools, and is now passing her declining years in Barkley Township, with the comfort and companionship of children and grandchildren. She is able to survey nearly all the years and the scenes which have transpired in the course of Jasper County's development from primitive conditions.

She was born July 27, 1842, in Decatur County, Indiana, a daughter of W. A. and Margaret (Mathewson) McKinney. Her parents had seven children, whose names were James, Mary E., Thomas, Lou Anna, Margaret J., Matilda E. and Ella. It was in the spring of 1862 that Mrs. Lewis and sisters, Mary and Lou, moved to Jasper County and located in Barkley Township. They acquired a quarter section of Government land, and while the father was industriously engaged in its development and in spreading the raw acres into productive fields, his children completed their education in the schools at Rensselaer.

In 1868 Miss Margaret J. McKinney began teaching school in the first frame schoolhouse in Barkley Township, known as the old Sandridge School. This building took the place of the log cabin which for a number of years had stood on the site and had served as a temple of learning for hundreds of scholars before that time. In the new building the children sat on benches which were arranged around all four sides of the room, while in the center was the



teacher's restroom or desk. Miss McKinney remained as the teacher there for three years, and then went to Union Township, and taught at the old Brushwood School. This school was held in an old log cabin typical of the early school buildings of Indiana. It had split log benches and a broad hewed log or slab extended around the walls of the room and was used as the only desk at which the pupils could write. Miss McKinney remained a teacher at that school for one year.

Then on September 3, 1871, she married Isaac R. Lewis in Barkley Township. To their union were born three children: John R., Charles E. and Isaac M., all of whom are married except Isaac. Isaac M. Lewis and Charles E. Lewis have the distinction of being the only native sons of Jasper County who have gained the scholastic degree of Doctor of Philosophy. Charles gained this title, which marks practically the supreme limit of attainment in scholastic fields at Cornell University, in 1905, while Isaac M. was awarded a doctorate in the University of Indiana in 1909. Isaac is now a member of the faculty at the University of Texas in Austin. Charles held a chair in the State University of Maine for several years, but is now actively engaged in farming.

**JOHN L. OSBORNE.** Few Jasper County families have been more closely identified with the agricultural activities and the good citizenship of the county than that of Osborne, represented by John L. Osborne, whose valuable and productive farmstead is in Hanging Grove Township, located two miles due north of the village of Lee. Mr. Osborne came to this county when a boy, and more than half a century has passed since the name was established in this section of Western Indiana.

His father was Lemuel A. Osborne, a son of Joseph and Winifred (McKinney) Osborne. Lemuel A. Osborne was born July 10, 1818, in Champaign County, Ohio, and was married February 10, 1843, to Olive Patton, who was also born in Ohio, a daughter of Francis and Elizabeth Patton. From Clarke County, Ohio, Lemuel A. Osborne moved to Fulton County, Indiana, in 1850, and lived on a farm near Rochester for eleven years. In 1863 he removed to Hanging Grove Township, in Jasper County, and that was his home until his death on March 9, 1874. He is buried in the Osborne Cemetery located on a part of his old farm in Hanging Grove Township. He and his wife are the parents of eleven children: Elizabeth W., who married Hamline Carpenter, and both are now deceased; Myrtie Z., the widow of Ezra L. Clark, and living in Rensselaer; Joseph F., deceased; John L.; Levi S., deceased; Mary, wife of Ernest Mason, living in Grand Rapids, Michigan; Amanda W., who married John F. Warren and lives in Oklahoma City; Ella I. the wife of A. W. Cole, and their home is in Lafayette, Indiana; Carrie, who died in infancy; Olive G., who married Charles Sprigg, living in Oklahoma City; and Hattie, deceased wife of



Isaac Onstott. The late Lemuel A. Osborne is still well remembered by the older citizens of Hanging Grove Township. At the time of his death he owned 160 acres of land, and had been quite successful as a farmer and in general business affairs. He was a member of the Methodist Church, a republican in politics, was township trustee and held some other local offices. He had a great circle of friends, was hospitable and made his home a center for the good society of that community, and he had many personal traits which endeared him to all who knew him. At the same time he was strong in his convictions, and anyone knew what he would do under given circumstances.

John L. Osborne, who is now the principal representative of the family in Jasper County, was born November 8, 1850, in Fulton County, Indiana, on his father's place just a mile south of Rochester. He was about thirteen years of age when his father moved to Jasper County, locating in section 35 of Hanging Grove Township, and Mr. Osborne has made his home now for more than half a century either in Marion or Hanging Grove townships. He gained his education in the local schools of this county and his native county, and has been well prospered as a farmer since taking up that vocation.

On November 17, 1875, he married Miss Mary F. Mellender, daughter of George F. and Martha (Hoback) Mellender, who were born in Johnson County, Indiana, of German descent. Five children have been born into the Osborne household: Omer L., who is a single young man living in Schenectady, New York; Linnie P., wife of Hay Rishling of Marion Township; Estel F., who married Vera Lefler and lives in Hanging Grove Township; Olive, who married George Culp and lives in Marion Township; and John, Jr., still at home.

Like his father before him John L. Osborne has always voted the republican ticket and his name is quite familiarly associated with township affairs. He served one term on the township advisory board, was for five years township assessor, and was township supervisor four years. He and his wife are members of the Methodist Church at Lee, and he is affiliated with the Knights of Pythias Lodge at Rensselaer. His farm comprises eighty acres, and while his time has been devoted to its improvement and operation, he has always shown himself a public spirited worker for improvements that would benefit the entire community.

**WILLIAM R. WILLITS.** Among those rural homes which carry with them evidences of enterprise and prosperity one that is easily conspicuous in the community of Hanging Grove Township is owned by William R. Willits, located a mile southeast of McCoysburg. This fine tract of 400 acres has been made to respond to the intelligent and capable efforts of its proprietor, and in consequence William R. Willits has for years occupied a substantial position in the agricultural and community life of Jasper County.





Of the sturdy Yankee stock of New York State, William R. Willits is a son of Isaac and Eliza (Van Camp) Willits, both of whom were born in New York State. His parents lived in Iowa for several years, and at Adel in that state William R. Willits was born September 26, 1855. In 1859, when he was four years of age, the family removed to Tippecanoe Township in Tippecanoe County, Indiana. Isaac Willits, the father, enlisted at Lafayette in a regiment of Indiana infantry during the Civil war, and was promoted from private through different grades up to first lieutenant. He served during the entire period of the war, and received wounds at Shiloh and at Gettysburg, and came out with an honorable record of which his descendants should always be proud. After the war he went west to Colorado and engaged in placer mining until his death. He is buried at Boulder, Colorado.

After the death of the father, the widowed mother and her family of four children moved to Hanging Grove Township. William R. was at that time twelve years of age. The other three children are: Charles O. who lives in Bakersfield, California; Joseph, whose home is at Mitchell, South Dakota; and Eliza, wife of William Hunter and living in San Diego, California.

Since the family settled near McCoysburg in 1868 William R. Willits has been continuously a resident of that locality. He obtained most of his education in the common schools there but from an early age has been intimately acquainted with hard work as a means of advancement and prosperity. Farming and stock raising have been the calling from which he has obtained the principal success, though he also worked as a carpenter for a number of years.

On October 9, 1885, he married Ida M. Eldridge, a daughter of Henry and Jane (Brasket) Eldridge, who were both natives of Ohio. Mr. and Mrs. Willits have one son, Russell W., who married Lena Ringeisen, and after living for a short time west of Rensselaer is now located on rural route No. 3 out of that city. Mr. Willits has been democratic committeeman in Hanging Grove Township for a number of years, and has permitted his name to go on the local ticket as candidate for different local offices, though never with expectation of election, since the republicans have an overwhelming majority in that township. Fraternally he is affiliated with Iroquois Lodge No. 143, Independent Order of Odd Fellows at Rensselaer. Mrs. Willits is a member of the Methodist Church.

**HENRY BUTLER.** There has been no name more consistently and continuously identified with the growing development and welfare of the Town of Goodland than that of Henry Butler. Mr. Butler is now retired, so far as active business pursuits are concerned, though his interest never wanes in anything that concerns the welfare of his community. Mr. Butler has a sense of peculiar gratitude and loyalty to Newton County, since when he came here nearly half a century ago he possessed neither money nor influence, and



has worked out his very prosperous career right in the town where he now lives.

He is an Englishman by birth and possesses many of the sturdy and happy characteristics of that race. He was born December 28, 1832, at Leamington, Warwickshire, England, a son of Henry and Fanny Butler, who spent all their lives in England. The little schooling which Henry Butler enjoyed as a boy was merely supplemental to his practical work in learning the trade of butcher. He worked at that trade in the City of London and also at Birmingham, but in 1865 he set out with his little family to find a home and perchance a fortune in the New World. His first location was at Belvidere, Illinois, where he conducted a butcher shop for one year. Going to Chicago he was in the employ of a packing firm there, and also conducted an individual market.

It was in 1869 that Mr. Butler first became known to the community in and about the Town of Goodland. Goodland was nothing to speak of in the way of a village at that time, and Mr. Butler's enterprise has been one of the factors in making it what it is today. As there was little opportunity for business in the community along the lines which he had previously followed, he spent three years as a farmer, and then, the town having grown somewhat, he established a meat market. It was this business which kept him employed up to 1904, at which time he sold out and has since devoted his leisure to superintendence of his real estate accumulations. For a period of over thirty years Mr. Butler was also the principal live stock man at Goodland, and bought and sold cattle and hogs on a large scale. At the present time Mr. Butler has among his accumulations more than 450 acres of land. All this represents the self-denial on the part of himself and wife, the hard work and intelligent management which characterized the early years of their residence in Newton County.

In England in 1857 Mr. Butler married Sarah A. Roulston, a daughter of William and Elizabeth Roulston, who spent all their lives in their native country. Five children were born of their marriage: Henry, now deceased, married May Harrington, who lives in Noble County, Indiana, and of their three children the only one now living is Harry. West Arthur, the second son, lives in Noble County, Indiana, and by his marriage to Kate Schultz has four children named Wesley, Esther, Freda and Earl. The third son, Alfred, is deceased as is also the only daughter, Fannie. Thomas, whose home is in Whiteley County, Indiana, married Naomi Gerrich, and they have two children, Russell and Neva.

Ever since he became an American citizen Mr. Butler has been a consistent republican in voting and in principle. However he has sought no office, though he was kept on the town board of Goodland for three years. He and his wife are members of the Presbyterian Church, and for five or six years he has served as a deacon. Church affairs have had much of Mr. Butler's time and attention,



and he was one of the building committee of the present church of his denomination at Goodland. It is doubtful if any important public improvement has been undertaken which has not had his practical and earnest support in the years gone by. It was he and John Perry who deserve much credit for getting up the petition for electric lights in Goodland. He has also been connected with several local loan associations and was one of the organizers and a director of the Newton County Loan & Savings Association. He is a charter member of Goodland Lodge of the Knights of Pythias, has served it as past chancellor, and has recently received a pleasing token of esteem from his fellow members in that lodge.

**SHERMAN HESS.** The Hess family is one of the oldest and most prominent in Newton County, and not one of the name has ever allowed a blot to rest upon the family record.

One of its members was the late Sherman Hess. He stood for right and justice at all times. He was a farmer, and his character and activities gained him the high esteem of the people of this county. He was born in Ross County, Ohio, August 19, 1849, the third in a family of five children, four sons and one daughter, whose parents were David and Elizabeth (Lyons) Hess. Other pages contain the record of the Hess family in other lines.

When he was a child of three years, Sherman's parents moved to Jasper County, Indiana, in 1852. He grew up there on a farm, attended the common schools, and part of the instruction he received at home was a firm insistence upon the value of honesty and integrity as essential parts of character. Mr. Hess was actively concerned with the work of the home farm until his marriage on July 6, 1904, to Miss Esther J. Dain. They were married in Montgomery County, Indiana. To their marriage was born one son, Louis Dain, who is now in the second grade of the public schools and shows much inclination to studious pursuits and promises growing up to useful manhood.

Mrs. Hess is a native of Montgomery County, Indiana, where she was born January 10, 1869, the fourth in a family of seven children, three sons and four daughters. Her parents were Marion and Cynthia (Cooper) Dain. All the children are still living, except her sister Mary, who died at the age of thirty-seven, and all reside in Indiana except Neria, who is the wife of J. W. Ghere, a resident of Appleton City, Missouri.

Marion Dain, her father, was born in Ross County, Ohio, was educated in the common schools, grew to young manhood in his native state, and became a carpenter and joiner by trade. From Ohio he came to Montgomery County, Indiana. Politically he was a republican. During the Civil war he made a record as a Union soldier, with the 11th Indiana Volunteer Infantry, being in the Army of the Tennessee under General Thomas. After some service he was discharged on account of illness caused by the hardships and



Mrs. and Mr. Sherman Hess







duties of military life. He was an active member of the Methodist Church. His wife was born in Indiana, and she now lives at the age of seventy-three with her daughter Mrs. Hess. She is a devout member of the Methodist Church.

As a young girl Mrs. Hess attended the common schools of Montgomery County, and she also took a course in the normal school at Crawfordsville. For two terms she was a successful teacher in her home county. Mrs. Hess is an active member of the United Brethren Church at Brook. She resides in a comfortable and attractive residence in that town.

Sherman Hess spent his active career as a farmer. He and his brother Edward fell heir to the old homestead, and these two men together acquired large landed estates in Newton County. Sherman Hess was a republican, but never held any office, and was a member of the United Brethren Church. His death occurred March 26, 1910, and his remains were laid to rest in the Brook Cemetery. The character he formed, the activities that engaged him, and his record in all the varied circumstances and relations of life, deserve some brief memorial to his worthy name.

EDWARD W. SELL. For more than forty years Mr. Sell has been one of the factors in agricultural development in Newton County. He has been a hard worker, a good manager, and has made his example an influence for modern improvement in his locality.

A Pennsylvanian, he was born in York County of that state in 1856, a son of Daniel W. and Susanna (Shellenbarger) Sell. His father was born near the historic City of Gettysburg, in Adams County, Pennsylvania, in 1828, while the mother was born at York, in York County, in 1836. Daniel Sell spent his active career as a farmer and in 1876 moved to Newton County, where he lived until his death in 1900.

Edward W. Sell grew up in his native county in Pennsylvania, gained a practical education, and when about eighteen years of age, in 1874, he came to Kentland, Indiana, and for two years worked for his uncle John Sell. When his father came to the county in 1876 he returned home and remained two years and then spent two years in farming for himself.

On January 6, 1881, Mr. Sell married Euphemia Myers, a daughter of John F. Myers, of Newton County. Mrs. Sell was born and reared on a farm north of Kentland. To their union have been born four children: Alice, who in 1905 married George Merchant; Ida, who married, February 24, 1915, Charles Kindig and has one child named Ralph Edward; Walter Lee, who is twenty-four years of age and unmarried; and Earl L., who was born February 13, 1895.

Ever since coming to Indiana Mr. Sell has been engaged in grain farming, and has been unusually successful. He has owned a large amount of Newton County land, and still has a fine place of 468



acres. He and his family are members of the United Brethren Church.

ABRAM DEWEES is one of the few native sons of Newton County who were born more than half a century ago. Thus his people were among the pioneers and he has made his own life count for good in his community, has always favored public improvement, and is rated as a very prosperous and substantial agriculturist.

He was born in Grant Township of Newton County March 6, 1864, a son of Jesse and Margaret (Fisher) Dewees, his father a native of Pennsylvania and his mother of Ohio. Jesse Dewees moved from Pennsylvania to Ohio, and came to Indiana during the decade of the '50s. The mother's family settled on Pine Creek, in Benton County, Indiana, when she was eighteen years of age. Jesse Dewees and wife were married in 1860 and he followed farming actively until his declining years, when he made his home with his son.

Abram Dewees grew up in Newton County, attended the local schools, and made an early start in life for himself. He was married at the age of nineteen, and for more than thirty years has industriously pursued his vocation as a farmer.

On February 8, 1883, he married Ida May McClintock, a daughter of James and Margaret (Evert) McClintock. Her father was a native of Ireland, spent a number of years as a minister of the Methodist Church but later took up farming in Newton County. He was born March 2, 1832, and died February 4, 1905, while Mrs. Dewees' mother was born October 25, 1832, and died August 12, 1913.

Mr. and Mrs. Dewees have two children: John F., born July 17, 1884, attended the country schools and the Brook High School, and is a prosperous young farmer; on December 24, 1897, he married Flora Ricker, daughter of James and Eliza Ricker, and of this union there are two children, Fay, born in April, 1910, and Harold, born in April, 1912. Clara Effa, the only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Dewees, was born September 28, 1888, received her education in the country schools of Newton County and married Charles S. Bell.

Mr. Dewees is a member of the Knights of Pythias Lodge at Brook, and he and his family worship in the Methodist Church. He filled out an unexpired term as supervisor and has always supported schools and other improvements in his community.

THEODORE E. COLLIER, M. D. In point of years of continuous service Doctor Collier is one of the oldest members of the medical profession in Jasper or Newton counties. For over twenty years he has had his home at Brook, and has looked after the needs of his patients in and around that village with a skill and fidelity which



have brought him a fine reputation as a physician and a high standing as a citizen. Doctor Collier began practice in this section of Indiana before many of the improvements had been introduced which now make the practice of medicine comparatively easy.

It is noteworthy that he was one of the men, including Doctor Crook, Doctor Lovett and the Hartleys of the Hartley Grain Company, who installed the first telephone line in Newton County, running from Goodland to Wadena. That was in the spring of 1894, and that little telephone line was the nucleus of the present telephone system covering practically all of Newton County.

Theodore Collier was born in Greene County, Ohio, December 11, 1862, a son of Albert and Susan (DeHaven) Collier, both of whom were natives of Ohio. In the paternal line Doctor Collier is of Scotch-Irish and French, but both the DeHavens and the Colliers have been Americans since colonial times. In 1870 Albert Collier moved his family to Howard County, Indiana, locating east of Kokomo, near Greentown, and then in 1875 they all moved to Starke County, Indiana, locating three miles south of Knox, where the father followed farming.

Doctor Collier grew up on farms in Western Ohio, in Howard County, and Starke County, Indiana, and largely made his own opportunities for entering the medical profession. He attended country schools, and spent five winters in teaching in Starke County. He took one year of preparatory work at Valparaiso University, then another year in the Kentucky School of Medicine at Louisville, and in 1893 graduated with the degree of M. D. from the Medical College of Indiana, at Indianapolis, now the regular medical department of the Indiana State University. Doctor Collier has always been a leader in his profession, and has taken some post-graduate work in the Chicago Eye and Ear Hospital at Chicago.

Immediately after getting his degree he began practice in Goodland in partnership with Dr. J. A. Lovett, but in May, 1894, established his office and home at Brook, where he has since ministered to the needs of his clients. Doctor Collier was for one year secretary of the old Newton County Medical Society, is a member of the Jasper and Newton County Medical Society, and belongs to the Indiana State Medical Association.

Fraternally he is affiliated with the Masonic Lodge at Brook and belongs to the Methodist Episcopal Church, and politically is a republican and progressive. On October 4, 1894, he married Miss Minnie Shilling, a daughter of William F. and Lavina (Gesaman) Shilling, who were of Pennsylvania German descent, lived for a time in Stark County, Ohio, and in 1852 established a home in Starke County, Indiana. Doctor and Mrs. Collier have three children: Orpha, Mary A. and Albert W., all of whom are still at home.

ANDREW HESS. The people of Newton County still pay tribute to the memory of Andrew Hess. He was one of the vigorous



upstanding figures in the life of that county for nearly forty years, and the many influences he set in motion and the vitality of his own character have since been continued in the careers of his own children, and his descendants are still numerously represented, particularly in the community of Brook.

He was of substantial Dutch stock, and was born in Greenbrier County, Virginia, now West Virginia, November 4, 1820. When he was four years of age his parents took him to Ross County, Ohio, and he was soon afterwards left an orphan. Industry and self-reliance were forced upon him in early youth, and he grew up strong and independent, characteristics that he exemplified all the rest of his life. In Ross County he married Sarah Holman, who was also of Pennsylvania Dutch stock.

In October, 1855, Andrew Hess brought his family to what is now Iroquois Township in Newton County, and as a farmer he lived there until his death on November 7, 1893. His body was laid to rest in the Brook Cemetery.

Andrew Hess possessed a strong mind, was a factor in the moral life of his community, and whatever he did he did well and his relations with his fellow men were always characterized by honor and fidelity. He was a republican in politics, and from 1867 to 1873 served as county commissioner. He was a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows at Brook.

The seven children of Andrew Hess and wife were: Eliza Jane, wife of John Merchant, and they live in North Carolina; Mary C. is the wife of John B. Lyons, a well known banker and stockman at Brook; Jephtha V. lives near Humboldt, Kansas, and married Rhoda Conn; John is now deceased; David is mentioned below; Austin A. is unmarried and lives at Brook; Elma E. is a druggist at Brook and married Ida Foersman.

**DAVID HESS.** For more than forty years David Hess has been a factor in commercial life in Newton County, and is proprietor of one of the principal merchandise stores of Brook.

He was born September 11, 1852, in Ross County, Ohio, on a farm northeast of Chillicothe, and was three years of age when his parents moved to Newton County. He grew up on his father's farm in Iroquois Township, acquired a practical education suitable to his needs, and early turned to mercantile life.

On January 1, 1880, he married Martha Jane McWilliams, a daughter of Robert and Mary Jane (Jacoby) McWilliams, of Idaville, Indiana. Robert McWilliams was one of the early settlers of that community and was of Scotch Presbyterian stock. Mr. and Mrs. Hess have four children. Etta G., the oldest, lives at home with her parents; Roy E. is a resident of Brook and is married to Gertrude White and has two children, Ellsworth and Rosalind B.; Blanche V. is the wife of E. A. Gast of Warsaw, Indiana, and they





have a child, David A.; the son Walter G. lives at home and assists his father in business.

In 1873, at the age of twenty one, David Hess became clerk in the store of A. J. Kent, at Brook. Afterward he clerked in other places until 1879, and then went into business for himself, a line which he has followed continuously for more than thirty-five years. Besides the management of his large store in Brook, he is also a stockholder in the Brook Terra Cotta Tile & Brick Company.

For many years David Hess has been a strong republican partisan and has taken considerable interest in politics. For several years he filled the office of county commissioner. He is a member of the Masonic Lodge and the Knights of Pythias of Brook, and his wife belongs to the Methodist Church of that village. Mr. Hess is liberal in his religious views and always contributes his share to all charities. Mrs. Hess is also a member of the Order of Eastern Star and the Pythian Sisters at Brook.

JOHN B. FORESMAN, JR. This venerable man, now in his eighty-fourth year, who with firm step and unclouded mind still walks the streets of his home Village of Brook, and during a long and useful life in this section of Indiana witnessed almost its entire development and has borne a share in the course of its progress. His life has been replete with experience and achievement, and the persistent honor paid to a character of rigid honesty and integrity.

For more than forty years he has been a resident of Newton County. He was born in Pickaway County, Ohio, September 28, 1832, a son of Robert and Sarah (Baer) Foresman. His father was a native of Pennsylvania and of Irish descent and the mother was a native of Ohio. The latter died in Tippecanoe County, Indiana, while Robert Foresman died in Kansas and is buried at Mound Valley in Labette County. The mother was laid to rest at Dayton in Tippecanoe County.

In November, 1833, the Foresman family arrived in Tippecanoe County, first locating in Lafayette, but in the following year moving to Wild Cat Prairie. John B. Foresman grew to manhood in Tippecanoe County and he attended some of the most primitive of the pioneer schools in that section of the state. The first notable event and achievements of his career was in 1840, when he was eight years of age. He had been given a pig by his father, and raised it carefully, and he exhibited the grown animal at the first agricultural show ever held in Tippecanoe County. The hog was awarded first prize and Mr. Foresman still cherishes the cup which was given as a symbol of the award.

On April 5, 1915, Mr. and Mrs. Foresman celebrated the sixtieth anniversary of their wedding. At that time they were one of the oldest married couples living in the state, and hundreds of friends and well wishers are ready to congratulate them upon their sixty-first wedding anniversary. Mr. Foresman was married at Attica,



Indiana, to Minerva C. Davis. The Davis family came from Vermont. To their union were born twelve children. William D., who lives in Oklahoma, married Ella Royal, and their two sons are Ray and Ivan. The second son, Frederick R., is now deceased. Sallie, the oldest daughter, died in childhood. Alice lives at home with her parents. Ida is the wife of E. E. Hess of Brook. Mary is Mrs. John Gwaltney and lives in California. Matilda is Mrs. Clarence Sunderland. Jeanette is the wife of John O. Sunderland. Fannie M. and Jessie both died young. John B. Foresman, Jr., has for years been in active business at Foresman, and by his marriage to May Lowe has two daughters named Leona and Grace. Frank, who lives in Oklahoma, married Mabel Welden, and their son is named John B. III.

When Mr. and Mrs. Foresman started housekeeping they looked into the future with courage and were not daunted by their present poverty. Mr. Foresman bought everything on credit which he needed to begin housekeeping, and the subsequent accomplishment in material accumulations and in the rearing of a fine family of children entirely justifies the start he and his loyal wife made so many years ago.

In 1872 Mr. Foresman moved from Tippecanoe County to Iroquois Township in Newton County and has since had his home in that township. In 1903 he retired from active business and he and his wife have since lived quietly retired in Brook. As a business he followed general farming and stock raising and at one time he had about 700 acres of land, but since has sold or given to his children considerable quantities and has now about 380 acres besides some town property.

In 1880 Mr. Foresman established the first tile factory in Newton County. The factory was on his farm, and he used most of the product at first for tiling his own land. He was a pioneer in tiling and his efforts in that line at first excited considerable ridicule. During the years 1883 and 1885 he was unable to sell enough tile to justify the operation of his plant, and then a few years later his plant could not make enough to supply the demand. He continued manufacturing tile for some ten or twelve years.

The little Village of Foresman, a station on the Chicago & Eastern Illinois Branch Railroad to La Crosse, was named in his honor, and he gave the right of way through his land. This road was originally built under the name Chicago & Great Southern.

Mr. Foresman is one of the few original republicans still living. He cast his first presidential ballot for John C. Fremont back in 1856. His father was a whig. Mr. Foresman served as township trustee four years, from 1876 to 1880, inclusive, and during that time he made the first large levy for school purposes, the largest ever made in the county up to that time. During his term he increased the school year in his township from three to seven months, its present standard, erected three new schoolhouses, and



resented eight others. Mr. and Mrs. Foresman are active members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and he helped toward building the church and at one time served as steward. He is a member of the Masonic Lodge at Brook, is a past master, and is said to be one of the oldest Masons in Indiana, having taken his first degree in the lodge at Dayton more than half a century ago.

**JOB ENGLISH.** Now living retired in the Village of Brook at the patriarchal age of eighty-six Job English has filled his years with useful toil, with sturdy accomplishment, has surrounded himself with family and friends, and certainly some memorial of him should be kept in the annals of Jasper and Newton counties.

His own career for upwards of seventy years has been wrought either in Jasper or Newton County, and it was more than half a century ago that he moved to a new farm in Jackson Township of Newton County.

His birth occurred on August 15, 1830, in Champaign County, Ohio, near Urbana. His parents were Abel and Mary (Wolfe) English, the former of English stock and the latter of Pennsylvania Dutch. In 1848 Abel English died in Ohio and in the following year his widow, with her family of children—Margaret, now deceased; Job; John L., of Jasper County; and Samuel, now deceased—came to Indiana and settled in Jasper County about seven or eight miles northeast of Rensselaer in the Fork settlement. There the mother provided for her family on rented land, and continued to live there until her death, which occurred about 1894. Her remains were laid to rest in Smith Cemetery in Jasper County.

Job English was nineteen when he came to Indiana. His education was only such as the common schools of his time could afford, and his main reliance has been on industry and his native judgment. About a year after the family came to Jasper County he and his brother John bought eighty acres of land and started out for themselves. It was not an easy struggle for some years, but he was ambitious, worked hard, and in time was able to provide for others besides himself.

In Jasper County in 1854 Job English married Rhoda McCurtain, a daughter of John and Esther (McGill) McCurtain. John McCurtain should be remembered as one of the very earliest settlers of Jasper County. He also came from Champaign County, Ohio, moved to Tippecanoe County, Indiana, in 1836, and in 1839 settled in Jasper County. The McCurtains are of Scotch-Irish ancestry.

Some years after his marriage, in 1862, Job English and wife moved to the Beaver Prairie settlement in section 29 of Jackson Township in Newton County. In that locality he made his success as a farmer, and accumulated the prosperity which enabled him in 1900 to retire from activity and move to a comfortable residence in the Village of Brook. When he came to Newton County Job English paid \$10 an acre, in trade, for eighty acres of land, and



all around him had sold at that time for \$6 or \$8 an acre. In recent years he has been offered as high as \$175 an acre for his farm. Mr. English followed feeding and shipping stock for twenty-five years and made a great success. He shipped to Chicago.

Three children were born to him and his good wife and have grown up to establish homes of their own. The oldest, Sarah Ann, married John Kennedy, now deceased, and they had eight children, all living but one. Melissa, the second daughter, is the wife of James A. Crisler and lives in Spokane, Washington. Herminia is the wife of Curtis D. Carpenter, and they live near Plymouth in Marshall County, Indiana.

Job English has been a consistent follower of the republican party for a great many years, in fact since it was organized, but in local matters he maintains an independent attitude and gives his support to the best man. For four years he filled the office of justice of the peace in Jackson Township. At the present time Mr. English owns 600 acres of land, partly in Jasper and partly in Newton County, and also considerable town property. He has always been in favor of improvement, and on his own land has laid many rods of tiling and his work and example have proved a lasting benefit to his community.

**WILLIAM F. CORBIN.** One of the oldest citizens of Newton County is William F. Corbin, now retired and living at Brook. Mr. Corbin has been a resident of Newton County more than fifty years and has busied himself with many activities, chiefly as a farmer, though he has always assisted in the mercantile enterprise of his home village, and was at one time postmaster there. His has been an honorable career throughout, and his name is one entitled to respect and the memory of subsequent generations.

He was born in Page County, Virginia, April 2, 1836, a son of Travis D. and Nancy (Mayes) Corbin. In 1853 the family came to Indiana and settled in Jasper County in what is now Washington Township of Newton County, where the father was one of the early farmer settlers. Travis D. Corbin besides helping to clear up and develop a tract of land in this county also rendered service by several terms as a school teacher. He died in Jefferson township in September, 1884, and is buried in the Roberts Cemetery. He was a democrat, though never a seeker for official honor, was a member of the Masonic Lodge at Morocco, and belonged to the Methodist Episcopal Church. By trade he was a carpenter. The children of Travis D. Corbin and wife were: William F., the oldest; Andrew J., who died young; Mary, who died as the wife of David Sager; Jane, deceased wife of Amos Hyberger; George W., who died unmarried; John W., whose home is in Jefferson Township and who married Leah Martin; Hiram E., who died while in Texas.

William F. Corbin was about seventeen years old when the family came to Newton County, and finished his education here and





was well prepared for the work of a farmer when he reached his majority. He continued actively in agricultural pursuits until he retired and moved to Brook in the fall of 1893.

In August, 1858, Mr. Corbin married Nancy F. Myers, who is of German descent and a daughter of John and Nancy (Snodgrass) Myers, the former a native of Pennsylvania and the latter of Kentucky. To Mr. and Mrs. Corbin were born ten children, three of whom died young; Nancy J. is the wife of George M. Light and lives in Colorado; Martha E. is the wife of Byrd Light and lives in Brook; Z. F., who lives at Brook, married Mollie Sterner; Henry R., whose home is near Morocco, married Ella Selt; Belzora is the wife of L. G. Coovert and lives in Texas; Eddie Josephine married James J. McCabe and lives three miles west of Brook; David E. has his home north of Brook and married Luella Marshall.

All his life Mr. Corbin has been an active democrat and served four years as postmaster of Brook during Cleveland's administration. He is a member of the United Brethren Church and was formerly an active participant in its work. Mr. Corbin owns 200 acres in Newton County and has a half interest in another farm near Medaryville. He and his son Z. F. for five or six years were in partnership in a general store at Brook, beginning about 1905.

JAMES SHAEFFER has a commendable record of activities in Newton County. He has spent nearly all his life in the county, represents a family of early settlers, and his own energies have gone productively into farming, and various avenues of business life. His home for a number of years has been in the Village of Brook, where he is one of the well known figures in local citizenship.

His birth occurred June 5, 1852, in Berks County, Pennsylvania. His parents John and Gustina (Schlaesman) Shaeffer were of Pennsylvania German stock. In March, 1860, the family left Pennsylvania, came to Newcastle, Indiana, but in December, 1862, moved to Iroquois Township in Newton County. Newton County was at that time a comparatively undeveloped district and the Shaeffers had their share in making farms out of the wilderness.

Since that date, James Shaeffer, who was ten years of age when the family located in this county has had his home almost continuously within five miles of the first settlement. His father died in Iroquois Township October 20, 1891, and is buried in the Watson Cemetery at Rensselaer. He was always a farmer and acquired an estate of 220 acres in Newton County. His church home was the Methodist.

James Shaeffer had begun his education before the family came to Newton County, and grew up on his father's farm. On March 7, 1878, he married Priscilla O. Jones, daughter of Cornelius and Matilda A. (Minshall) Jones, of Newton County. Her parents settled in Iroquois Township as early as 1856, their former home having been in Ross County, Ohio. Cornelius Jones was of mingled



German and Welsh descent, while his wife was of Scotch stock. Mr. and Mrs. Shaeffer have three children. Kitne M. is the wife of Claude A. Warr, who lives in Brook. Mattie G. is the wife of Charles A. Mather, who lives in Iroquois Township. Agnes V. married Henry Smith, and they live three miles northeast of Brook.

Having pursued farming successfully for a number of years Mr. Shaeffer in December, 1886, left his farm and established himself in the general merchandise business at Foresman. He remained one of the live merchants of that community until 1897, and he also became known as a buyer of livestock, real estate and a dealer in loans. Since 1897 his home has been in Brook, and here he has continued to look after his varied interests, including lands, the handling of loans, and he is also interested in the plumbing business with his son-in-law at Brook. Mr. Shaeffer is a republican, but has no aspirations for office. He is charter member of Brook Lodge of the Knights of Pythias.

ELMER E. HESS. Besides being one of the most genial and popular townsmen at Brook, Elmer E. Hess has made his business a means of carrying the name and fame of this Indiana village beyond the borders of Newton County. For a great many years, in fact since the early settlement of the county, no name has been spoken with greater respect within its borders than that of Hess. Elmer E. Hess is a son of the late Andrew Hess, who established the family here a little more than fifty years ago, and whose descendants still play a valiant part in the business and social life of the community.

Something of his genial fellowship is indicated by the name "Old Mack" by which he is popularly known among his associates and old time friends, and his part as a factor in the business life is indicated by another familiar title, "Witch Hazel Hess."

On February 1, 1916, the E. E. Hess Drug Company was incorporated under the state laws of Indiana, with Mr. Hess president, and the other members of the board of directors are Everett D. Hess, his son, and John L. Cooke, of Goodland and Verne C. Snyder. Articles of this corporation were taken out in order the better to handle an industry which has grown under the capable management of Mr. Hess during the past quarter of a century. The primary object of the E. E. Hess Drug Company is to manufacture what is known to the trade as "W. H. C.", which being translated means witch hazel cream. A year or so ago an article in the Brook Reporter gave a little history of this business, and it is reproduced here with some abbreviation.

On August 1, 1888, Mr. Hess established a little drug store in Brook, his stock consisting of a handful of goods, a good appetite for work and a determination to win out. He had all he could do for several years in making a living out of the business. He also had a hobby, and by concentrating attention on this hobby it became his real business, and in time the drug store was a side



issue. He kept on his shelves a considerable stock of creams, lotions, and other toilet preparations, many of them put up in fancy packages, and there was a special demand for such goods at certain seasons of the year, when many of his customers were looking for something for rough and irritated skins, chapped hands, face and lips. Mr. Hess had sufficient conceit to believe that he could produce a toilet preparation a little better than the best. He kept up his experimenting for a number of years, and finally brought out "W. H. C." Mr. Hess claims for this article something entirely different in composition from the usual preparations designed to accomplish the same purpose.

At first he manufactured only a few bottles, but the trade has now grown until it is manufactured by the hundreds of gallons, and this growth is the more interesting and noteworthy because it is the result of personal endorsement and a gradual extension of the reputation of the product, rather than from elaborate advertising. At the beginning Mr. Hess had no idea of selling the preparation except to the local trade. Former customers who moved away ordered a few bottles sent by mail or express, and gradually druggists in other towns began inquiring and asking for a few bottles, and thus the industry came to have more than a little importance. The equipment at first was an old granite kettle in which the preparation was boiled. The next year he introduced a kettle of about double the capacity, and following that came a copper wash boiler, sufficient to make about ten gallons at one time. But in a few years it appeared that the wash boiler was inadequate. Before investing in a larger and much more costly equipment, Mr. Hess sent out letters of inquiry to all the merchants who had handled the preparation, and answers were received to four out of five of these letters, giving him such encouragement and endorsing the preparation so highly that he felt justified in establishing the industry on something like a factory basis. As a result the equipment was increased until it was capable of making about 100 gallons of "W. H. C." every day. With increased trade there came the incorporation of the business, already mentioned, and early in 1916 the company moved to larger quarters and now has a plant with equipment far in advance of any of the earlier stages mentioned.

Elmer E. Hess was born February 20, 1862, in Iroquois Township of Newton County, and has always had his home in that one community. He grew up on a farm, and besides the common schools attended for a time the high school at Logansport.

His first business experience was as a clerk for about eighteen months in the drug department of W. D. Foresman's general store. Then in 1888 he established his drug business at Brook under the name "Hess The Druggist." Later the business was known as E. E. Hess & Son, and out of that came the E. E. Hess Drug Company, Incorporated.

In 1890 Mr. Hess married Ida Foresman, a daughter of John



B. Foresman, of a well known Newton County family elsewhere referred to. Mr. and Mrs. Hess have two children, Everett D., who is associated with his father in the business, and married Hazel Lawrence; and Leland F., who is attending school at Brook. In politics Mr. Hess is a republican and has always been a strong admirer of Theodore Roosevelt. He served on the school board and one term on the town board, and is now president of the library board. He is affiliated with Knights of Pythias Lodge at Brook.

BERNHARD PAULUS. This is the oldest living resident of Iroquois Township in Newton County. His home has been in this section of Indiana for fifty-three years, and though he long since passed the age of fourscore and is now nearing the age of ninety, it was only in 1913 that he gave up his active responsibilities as a farmer in Iroquois Township and moved to take life somewhat at leisure to the Village of Brook.

Few men have accepted more of the opportunities that come to every honest and worthy citizen than Bernhard Paulus. A history of Newton County would hardly be complete without some reference to this venerable octogenarian.

He is a Bavarian by birth and ancestry, and was born in the district between Nuremberg and Wuerzburg, in Bavaria, June 30, 1828. His early life was spent on the vine clad hills of Bavaria and one experience of his early manhood was a service of three years three months thirteen days with the Sixth Regiment of Bavarian Infantry. In 1853 he hired a substitute to take his place in the ranks and set out for America, landing at Baltimore September 13, 1853. His sweetheart accompanied him on the same boat and on New Year's Day of 1854 they were married in Cincinnati.

His home was at Cincinnati until 1861, and he then moved to Wayne County, Indiana, and on April 13, 1863, arrived in Iroquois Township of Newton County, locating two miles south and one mile east of Brook. As a German lad he learned the baker's trade, which he followed in the old country, and he also worked in the same line at Cincinnati. Later he started a cooper shop in Butler County, Ohio, but when his hands all deserted him to enlist in the army during the Civil war he gave up the business, and soon afterward moved to Indiana. His career in Newton County has been entirely that of a farmer. He still owns a fine place of 120 acres in Iroquois Township, and has some town property. Practically all his land is thoroughly drained by tiling.

The young Bavarian woman whom Mr. Paulus married at Cincinnati over sixty years ago was Margaret Neuberger. They lived together nearly thirty years and her death occurred in 1883. Seven children were born to their union. The oldest, Margaret, is now deceased. Philip L. is a farmer in Jasper County, Indiana. Johanna is the wife of Henry Getting and lives at Hartford, Indiana. John L. is a farmer in Illinois. Henry is a farmer near Rensselaer.





Emma is the wife of Howard Van Dorn of Harvey, Illinois. Mary is the wife of Fritz Stewart, of Mason City, Tennessee. For his second wife Mr. Paulus married Irene Hines, of Newton County.

Mr. Paulus has always been a republican, and while ever ready to perform those duties which come to every good citizen he had no ambition for public office. Therefore it was a case of the office seeking the man when his fellow citizens in Iroquois Township chose him as township supervisor, an office he filled for eleven years. He has also exerted his influence both by example and by encouragement to others in such improvements as ditches and roads. He was also a school director, and has proved a loyal and stanch friend of public schools. Mr. and Mrs. Paulus are both active members of the United Brethren Church at Brook, and he has been liberal in giving to and supporting the church of that denomination.

CLAIR M. RICE, M. D. When Doctor Rice finished his medical education in the City of St. Louis in 1901, he chose as his first location and point of practice Jasper County. During the five years of his residence in that county he built up a promising patronage, and then in 1906 he removed to Rose Lawn in Newton County, and for the past ten years has been the leading physician in that rural community.

To his ample practice in this district, he has brought the ability and careful skill which would have gained him perhaps more distinction but not greater honors for substantial service in the populous urban centers. A special honor as a citizen was paid him in 1915 when the citizens of Lincoln Township elected him their trustee, and he is now filling that office and is giving much time and attention to the supervision of the schools and the other duties of his office. Doctor Rice is a stanch democrat and has taken an active part in behalf of his party. He is a member of the Newton and Jasper Counties Medical Society, and is medical examiner for a number of fraternal orders. His personal affiliations are with the Masonic Order, Earl Lodge of Rose Lawn, Indiana, the Knights of Pythias of Rose Lawn, and the Modern Woodmen of America of Morocco, Indiana.

The Rice family to which he belongs has been identified with Northwestern Indiana since pioneer days. Doctor Rice was born at Hebron in this state June 3, 1879, a son of James V. and Elizabeth Rice. His father was a native of Ohio, and his grandfather came to Hebron at an early day. His grandfather, whose name was James V. Rice, acquired a large amount of valuable farming land in the vicinity of Hebron, and was one of the men of substantial prominence in this locality until his death. He had the distinction of serving as a soldier in the Mexican war. James V. Rice, father of Doctor Rice, also followed the vocation of farmer, and died in 1913.



Doctor Rice is the youngest of his father's children. His father was married three times. Doctor Rice attended high school at Hebron, and after his literary training entered the Medical College at St. Louis where he took his degree M. D.

On January 3, 1902, at Kankakee, Illinois, he married Miss Mabel Burgess. Mrs. Rice is a woman of culture and well fitted by education and nature for the responsibilities of a home maker and also as a leader in her social community. She graduated from Valparaiso University, and taught school for several years before her marriage. Doctor and Mrs. Rice have a fine family of five children: Burgess, James V., Clair Malcolm, John H. and William K.

DAVID K. FRYE. For more than thirty years a substantial and well known business man of Rose Lawn, David K. Frye has led a very active career and has always found a way to employ his energies profitably and usefully. The business activities and prestige of the Village of Rose Lawn largely center around the establishment of Mr. Frye. He is not only the oldest merchant of the village but one of the oldest in point of continuous service in Newton County. For more than a generation he has supplied general merchandise to his large patronage in that community, and his store has been one of the important mediums for the marketing of farm produce. Added to his responsibilities as a general merchant are also the duties of the local postoffice.

The best kind of help is self-help, and throughout his career Mr. Frye has acted on that principle and policy. He was born in Allen County, Indiana, November 8, 1850, a son of Jacob and Mary (Minich) Frye. His father, who was a native of Bavaria, Germany, came to America alone and fully three quarters of a century ago arrived in Indiana, locating on a farm in Allen County. He was a hard working farmer all his active career, and died in 1861. Of his family of nine children seven are still living.

David K. Frye grew up on the old homestead and remained there until he was twenty-one. His education came from the local schools, and he wisely improved his opportunities. At the age of twenty-one he went to Valparaiso, Indiana, and was there employed as a meat cutter until 1888. He was thirty-two years of age when he arrived at Rose Lawn in Newton County and engaged in the general merchandise business. He had ambition, considerable experience, made a close study of local conditions as affecting a store, and his energy and square dealing have been constant factors in his progress to prosperity.

There is no better citizen in Lincoln Township than Mr. Frye. Evidence of this is found in the fact that his fellow citizens elected him township trustee, an office he filled from 1904 to 1908. He was appointed postmaster of Rose Lawn some years ago, and his store is also the headquarters of the local postal department. In politics Mr. Frye is a democrat.



On December 8, 1884, he married Miss Elizabeth Tanner of Rose Lawn, and they have had their home in that village for more than thirty years. Mr. and Mrs. Frye are the parents of one daughter, Flora, who is now twenty-three years of age and a young woman of culture and refinement, being a graduate of high school and also of the Indiana State Normal College at Terre Haute.

GEORGE A. HOPKINS. There are in every community men of such force of character that by reason of their capacity for leadership they become recognized as foremost citizens and bear a most important part in public affairs. Such has been the creditable position in Newton County of George A. Hopkins, whose work as a business man in the construction of many solid homes and other buildings has gained him a splendid reputation as a carpenter and builder, and his position in public affairs is that of trustee of Jackson Township.

He has spent most of his active career in Newton County, but was born in Stark County, Illinois, November 8, 1851. His parents were Jedushan S. and Anna L. (Rouse) Hopkins, the former a native of Ohio and the latter of New York State. His mother's people came originally from Germany. J. E. Hopkins moved from Ohio to Illinois, was a practical farmer there for many years and then came to Newton County, Indiana, locating in Iroquois Township. After a year he went to Jasper County, Indiana, and was identified with farming in that locality until his death ten years later, in 1875. His widow survived him until 1884. J. S. Hopkins was a member of the Methodist Church, a republican in politics, a believer in temperance and in every respect a model and upright citizen.

George A. Hopkins spent the first twenty-two years of his life in the home of his parents. He acquired such education as the local schools could afford, and as a means of securing a livelihood and advancing himself as a useful citizen he learned the carpenter's trade.

On January 5, 1889, in Newton County he married Miss Harriett F. Clark, a daughter of William and Hester Clark. Her parents lived in Wisconsin for three years, then removed to Illinois, from there to Ohio, afterward returned to Illinois, and in 1871 the Clark family came to Newton County, and in 1881 bought a farm of 120 acres near Brook. Mrs. Hopkins was the eighth in a family of nine children. Three children were born into the home of Mr. and Mrs. Hopkins, and the one now living is Lloyd. The son Lloyd has successfully taught school in Newton County six years, and is now married to Miss Allie Spangler.

In matters of politics Mr. Hopkins is an active republican. For four years he filled the office of postmaster at Mount Ayr, and has always been one of the sturdy and progressive citizens of his community. In 1914 the people of Jackson Township elected him



township trustee, and since taking that office he has given much of his time to the successful administration of the township schools and of other duties that come within the scope of his office.

The trade of carpenter which he learned as a youth has been the basis of his successful business career. He has erected many substantial residences both in the villages and country districts of Newton County, and his own beautiful home is in Mount Ayr. He is still active as a builder and carpenter, though not to the same extent he was in former years.

**JESSE BRINGLE.** Among the Iroquois Township farms in Newton County, that are deserving mention as places of value in the material sense and as homes of thrifty and energetic citizens, there is the Bringle place, the proprietor of which is Mr. Jesse Bringle, who has lived in this section of Northwestern Indiana for more than thirty years. It is only a matter of propriety that a brief record should be given in this history of Mr. Bringle's career.

Born August 2, 1855, in New Saulsbury, Harrison County, Indiana, he is a son of Lawrence and Nancy (Craydon) Bringle. His father was a native of North Carolina, born there in 1800 and went as a pioneer to Harrison County, Indiana. He was a general farmer, a man who enjoyed the esteem of his fellow citizens, and his death occurred fifty-nine years ago when his son Jesse was two years of age. He had been twice married. His first wife, whom he married in 1824, was Anna C. Reep, who died leaving six children. On November 12, 1866, Lawrence Bringle married Nancy Craydon of New Saulsbury, Indiana. She became the mother of five children, the last being Jesse.

Mr. Bringle grew up in his mother's home, remaining with her until he was twenty-one years of age, and acquiring a common school education. On January 31, 1880, he married Miss Catherine Bill, a daughter of Jacob T. and Anna (Heintz) Bill of New Saulsbury, Indiana. Mr. and Mrs. Bringle started out with little capital and have proved their claim to prosperity by hard work and thrifty management. In March, 1884, they removed to Iroquois Township in Newton County, and after renting a farm for twelve years Mr. Bringle bought the eighty acres in that township where he now resides. From early boyhood he was taught the duties of farming and that has been his real vocation. His farm is well improved, well stocked, and grows all the best grain crops of Newton County. He has also provided a comfortable home for his family and he and his wife have given their children the best of advantages. Politically Mr. Bringle is a democrat.

They have five children: Jacob L., Anna M., Nora E., Maud T. and William Merrill. All the children were given a good education and the daughter Anna, after attending the common schools, spent two years in Valparaiso University in the normal department, and for the past four years has been a successful and popular teacher





in Jasper and Newton counties. Nora E. graduated from the Mount Ayr High School, and taught two terms in Newton County. Mr. Bringle is a member of the Mount Ayr Lodge of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

**GEORGE W. LYNCH.** Starting life as a farm laborer, first supporting himself and then a family, gradually accumulating some means by careful savings and good management, until he was able to secure land of his own, Mr. George W. Lynch has a record of commendable progress and prosperity, and is now well established as the leading merchant of Mount Ayr in Jackson Township.

A native of this section of Indiana, he was born at Goodland April 23, 1873, a son of James A. and Amy (Nace) Lynch. His father, who was born in Pennsylvania, came west to Illinois in 1871, and for a time followed his trade of wagon maker in that state, but in 1872 moved to Goodland, where he was steadily employed until he retired. He had a fine record as a soldier in the Civil war, having enlisted from Pennsylvania, and continuing almost from the beginning until the close of hostilities. He was long identified with the Grand Army of the Republic, and in matters of politics was a republican. His death occurred in 1911.

Mr. George W. Lynch is the fourth in a family of nine children, four of whom are still living. He was reared and received his early education in Indiana, and at the age of eighteen began earning his living as a farm laborer. That was his employment for twelve years, and later he went to Oklahoma and bought 160 acres, constituting a quarter section of land in that new country. While living in Oklahoma Mr. Lynch was married September 9, 1901, to Miss Florence Clinton. A happy family of five children were born to them, and the four now living are Charles L., Kenneth, Donald and Clary.

In 1908 Mr. Lynch returned to Newton County, and engaged in the restaurant business. After five years in that line he bought a stock of goods and is now proprietor of the leading general store and restaurant of Mount Ayr. He is a well liked business man, and is equally public spirited in matters of citizenship. He belongs to the Modern Woodmen of America, Mount Ayr Camp No. 6834, and a number of other fraternal orders and is a republican voter.

**EPHRAIM BROWN.** The Brown family is one of the oldest in Newton County, and its members have been continuously identified with the development and improvement of this section for about seventy years. Mr. Ephraim Brown is carrying on the work of farming and stock raising where his father left off, and is well known among farmers and stock raisers not only in the county but all over this part of the state.

Born September 23, 1863, in Newton County, Ephraim Brown is a son of Philip and Mary Ann (Bridgeman) Brown. His father



was born in Tippecanoe County, Indiana, and died in 1910. The mother died in 1913. Philip Brown when a boy removed to Newton County with his brother some time in the '40s, and by hard work and good management built up an estate of 190 acres of land.

Ephraim Brown was the oldest in a family of six children, five of whom are now living. He acquired his present farm in Jackson Township by inheritance and is now living there as a bachelor. He is a very successful general farmer, and he also enjoys the recreations of hunting and fishing. He takes great delight in fast horses and some of his runners have been entered on the track in various fairs and racing meets.

**PRESTON F. ROBERTS.** One of the family names best known and most highly esteemed in Newton County is that represented by life and activities of Preston F. Roberts, who sustains the reputation of being a real farmer, a man who makes agriculture a successful business instead of a haphazard pursuit, and has deservedly prospered. He has been as vigorous and public spirited in matters of the local welfare and the advancement of his county as he has been in looking after his private affairs, and he is one of the prominent men of Jackson Township.

He was born in Lawrence County, Indiana, January 12, 1844, a son of Samuel and Elizabeth (Hooker) Roberts. His mother, whose maiden name was Hooker, was born in Washington County, Indiana. They were married in Washington County, and when Preston Roberts was a small child his father went down the Ohio River on a boat and was never heard of again. The mother died when Preston was eleven years of age.

Thus thrown upon his own resources, he had to battle for success without the environment in which most boys are reared. For ten years he lived in the Kerby family and practically grew up in their household.

On December 28, 1863, Mr. Roberts married Miss Louisa Keithley, and they have continued life's mutual companionship now for more than half a century. Seven children were born to them. The five now living are: Jesse E., Lora C., Claude P., Lillian, and Bela F.

After his marriage Mr. Roberts spent the summer seasons in farming and taught school in the winter. In spite of the handicap to his early career, he has managed to acquire a liberal education, partly in the common schools and partly in an academy.

On August 3, 1864, Mr. Roberts came to Jasper County, and was a resident of Newton Township in that county for three years. He then moved to Newton County, and has since been one of the progressive citizens of Jackson Township. The original forty acres which he bought nearly half a century ago is still the site of his home, and he and his family reside in the house which he erected in 1869. It is one of the landmarks of this rural district. Mr.



Roberts' prosperity has come from the successful management of his farm, the raising of corn and hogs, the conduct of a dairy, and he has also engaged in market gardening as a side line.

He has also been called to public office, and has acquitted himself most creditably. He served as supervisor four years, and for four years was a member of the county council. In politics he is a democrat, is a member of the Grange, and has always given liberally of his means to those institutions which are most important factors in the life of a community.

CHARLES A. WOOD has for a number of years been successfully engaged in the practice of dentistry at Brook, Indiana. He is a native of Jasper County, and represents one of the old families in this section of the state.

He was born on a farm south of Rensselaer in Jasper County August 25, 1874, a son of William Henry and Mary (Pierson) Wood. The Wood family originally came from Virginia. William H. Wood was born in 1847 and when a boy came to Rensselaer, where he remained with his cousin Jacob Wood for a time. He was one of the boy soldiers in the Civil war, spending two years in the ranks, and giving a good account of himself. In 1869 he married, and then established a home on a farm southeast of Rensselaer, afterward moving to Rensselaer, where he and his wife still live.

Doctor Wood secured his early education in Jasper County and in 1899 graduated from the Chicago College of Dental Surgery. Locating at Brook, he has practiced successfully there for the past seventeen years, and at the same time has borne a full share in the public affairs of that community. Doctor Wood is an ardent supporter of the public schools at all times, and for ten years he served as town clerk and is now town trustee. He is a member of the Brook Knights of Pythias Lodge, Castle Hall No. 277, and belongs to the United Brethren Church.

May 11, 1900, Doctor Wood married Olive Wilson, daughter of Samuel and Marilla (Neely) Wilson. Both her parents were Ohio people and they moved to Indiana in 1876, locating at Brook, where the father was a farmer. Mrs. Wood's mother was born July 31, 1838, in Pickaway County, Ohio, and died July 29, 1909. Her father was born November 4, 1828, and died November 17, 1893. Doctor and Mrs. Wood have four children: Frances E., in the eighth grade in school and has taken musical training; Helen M., in the sixth grade; and Marvin A., and Martha N., twins, in the fourth grade.

FRANK BEWEER, who has spent all his active life in Washington Township of Newton County, is a man of no small distinction in that community. People know and speak of him as a very progressive and successful farmer. One of the fine farms of the township stands as ample evidence and proof of the truth of this



observation. At the same time he is a leader in public affairs, and is now serving as township trustee.

His birth occurred on a farm in Washington Township September 22, 1875. He is a son of Benjamin and Sarah Ann (Rider) Brewer. When Frank Brewer was less than a year old his father died and he spent his early life on the old farm with his mother. He was given such advantages as the public schools of the locality could afford, and he wisely improved his early opportunities to secure a practical training for the serious responsibilities of the world. His father owned at the time of his death 120 acres in Washington Township, and 40 acres of that land has since become the property and home of his son Frank Brewer. Mr. Brewer has in many ways improved this land during the past twenty years, and has increased his holdings to 160 acres. The farm has every equipment and facility necessary for progressive agriculture, and he is a master of the art of raising good crops and good livestock.

On October 29, 1901, Mr. Brewer married Miss Carrie E. Buswell, daughter of George and Florence A. (Bell) Buswell. To their union have been four children, Gladys L., Lela M., Dale W., and Harley F. These children have all received the benefits of the local schools, and Gladys graduated from the grade schools in 1916.

The family are active members of Mount Zion United Brethren Church. Mr. Brewer is a democrat and in 1916 was elected to his present office as trustee of Washington Township. He has accepted that office as a place of trust, and is giving much of his personal time to the supervision of the many interests entrusted to him, with particular regard to the welfare of the local school system.

**GEORGE A. MERCHANT.** The Town of Brook has one store which more than any other has for many years stood as the reliable center of first class merchandise and the home of adequate and fair service. This is a store established many years ago by the late Joseph Merchant, and one of whose proprietors is George A. Merchant, a son of Joseph.

George A. Merchant is a young and progressive business man of Newton County, has spent all his life within the borders of this county, and knows the people and aims constantly to supply their wants in a mercantile way.

He was born in Brook October 26, 1881, a son of Joseph and Elizabeth (Warr) Merchant. Both families were from England. On coming to America Joseph Merchant located in Newton County, and engaged in the mercantile business by himself. He afterward formed a partnership with Reinhard Bossuing. That name was continued with all its honorable relations and association until the death of Mr. Joseph Merchant in 1904. Thereafter the firm name became Bossuing & Merchant, with George A. Merchant owner of a half interest in the business.





This firm conducts a complete department store. It is the leading concern of its kind in the Town of Brook. The late Joseph Merchant was not only well known as a merchant but as a capable and upright citizen of Newton County. He has built up an extensive trade by honorable and fair methods, and these same qualities have descended to his son George.

George A. Merchant was one of a family of five children, only three of whom are still living. He was reared in Brook, received the advantages of the common schools, and was practically brought up in his father's store. When he was twenty-three years of age the death of his father threw upon him the responsibilities of continuing the business, and he has more than made good in his vocation. He is an active member of Brook Lodge No. 670, Free and Accepted Masons, politically is a republican and is a member of the United Brethren Church.

On May 23, 1905, he married Miss Alice Sell, a daughter of Edward Sell. Her family came to this section of Indiana in the early days from Pennsylvania, and were identified with the agricultural growth and prosperity of Newton County. Mr. Merchant is one of the public spirited citizens of Brook, and gives his influence and means to the promotion of every worthy enterprise.

HUGH M. LIGHT has long been an active business man in Brook. He is associated with several other well known citizens of the town in the grain business. His principal industry, however, has been farming. Mr. Light knows farming as the result of long and capable experience. He owns one of the fine farms in Washington Township of Newton County, and has extensive interests in lands elsewhere.

The Light family were among the pioneers of Newton County. They originated in the State of Kentucky, and in an early day moved from there to Owen County, Indiana, where grandfather Light was a pioneer settler. H. M. Light was born in Owen County March 27, 1858. His parents were Bluford and Martha (Burton) Light. Bluford Light, who was also a native of Indiana, came to Newton County and acquiring land in the southern part of Washington Township began a career as a farmer which eventually made him known all over this county. He was one of the leading stock raisers of the early days, and was a resident of Washington Township for more than forty years. He finally moved to Kentland, where he died. He was a very active member and a trustee of the United Brethren Church in Washington Township. The church in which he worshiped for many years was finally destroyed by fire, and from its ashes arose a modern chapel built at a cost of \$12,000. Bluford Light was very much interested in this new church but he died before it was completed. His long and honorable career was an exemplification of the fact that strict honesty and probity are no bars to success in business. His character was indeed his best



asset, and he not only left a good property but also a cherished name and reputation.

Hugh M. Light spent his early years in Newton County, attended the public schools, and lived in the paternal home until he was twenty-four. On March 1, 1871, he was married in Washington Township near the Illinois State line. To their marriage were born six children, and the five now living are: Oral B., Zena B., Clara, Vernon, and Opal who is a college graduate and in 1913 began teaching in the district and grade schools in Newton County. At present (1910) she holds the chair of Domestic Science in Brook High School.

Mr. Light is a republican in politics, belongs to the Knights of Pythias fraternity, and for several terms has served as a member of the Board of Stewards of the United Brethren Church at Brook and was a member of its building committee. This committee completed a handsome church at Brook in 1910.

In 1902 Mr. Light engaged in the grain business at Brook, and is interested in the elevator there and in several other elevators. His principal success has come from farming. He has a splendidly improved and valuable farm of 215 acres in section 20 of Washington Township. He also owns an entire section of land in South Dakota a mile and a half from Langford. Mr. Light is a director in the Brook Terra Cotta Manufacturing Company.

JOSEPH E. HOOKER has one of the very responsible and important official places in Newton County, that of superintendent of the County Infirmary. He has long been well known to the people of Newton County, has been a progressive and enterprising farmer, and a leader in republican politics.

He was born August 18, 1875, in Iroquois County, Illinois, a son of John and Olive (Fry) Hooker. His father was a native of Ohio, went west in 1861 and located in Iroquois Township of Newton County, Indiana, afterwards moved to Iroquois County, Illinois, and in 1877 went west. He was married to his second wife in 1884, and she survived him and is now living in Iroquois County, Illinois.

Joseph E. Hooker grew up on a farm, lived with his mother, and on August 15, 1900, married Miss Bertha Anderson. Mrs. Hooker is a niece of W. B. Anderson, a prominent farmer of Jefferson Township in Newton County. Her mother was Miss Ella Harriman, wife of John Anderson, a brother of W. B. Anderson, and she died in 1896. Mrs. Hooker was third in a family of five children.

After his marriage Mr. Hooker farmed in Fulton County, Indiana, from 1901 to 1903, and then returned to Newton County, Indiana, and continued his chosen vocation here. On September 1, 1905, he was appointed superintendent of the Newton County Infirmary, and for more than ten years he has given a capable direc-



tion to its affairs. He and his wife are people of great kindliness of heart, show a deep interest in the welfare of the unfortunate people entrusted to their care, and the institution has never been better managed than at the present time.

Mr. Hooker is affiliated with Kentland Lodge No. 301, Free and Accepted Masons, and with the Knights of Pythias at Kentland, Indiana. He and his family worship in the Mount Zion United Brethren Church in Washington Township. Politically he is a republican, and stands high among the leaders of that party in Newton County. In 1912 he was candidate for the office of sheriff, but as every one knows that was a year when few republicans were elected anywhere in the country. However, he was defeated by a very narrow margin.

To Mr. and Mrs. Hooker were born five children. Four are now living: Buncita, born July 12, 1901; John H., born April 11, 1904; Selma, born May 21, 1906; and Joseph E., Jr., born May 21, 1908. These children are receiving the best of advantages in home and the local schools, and are being well trained to lives of usefulness and honor.

MRS. GEORGE M. HERRIMAN is one of the cultured and honored ladies of Newton County and has lived the greater part of her life within its borders. Since the death of her husband, the late George M. Herriman, she has lived on the old homestead in Washington Township and is surrounded by every comfort of her declining years.

She was born July 15, 1846, in Tippecanoe County, Indiana, a daughter of Jacob and Mary Ann (Krasner) Jones. Her father died October 5, 1885, and her mother on November 18, 1901. Mrs. Herriman was the third in a family of eight children.

On April 19, 1868, in Newton County she married the late George M. Herriman. Mr. Herriman's first wife was Miss Elizabeth Denny, who died in 1867. By Mr. Herriman's first marriage there were eight children, and those now living are as follows: Sarah M. Herriman Martin, born August 23, 1852; Albert A. Herriman, born May 15, 1857; John B. Herriman, born May 9, 1863; and William P. Herriman, born February 26, 1865.

Mrs. Herriman also became the mother of eight children, and the five now living are: Arthur, born December 2, 1873; Alva E., born October 12, 1875; Grace E., born October 9, 1877; Harry W., born June 11, 1882; and Clyde R., born February 6, 1887.

After his second marriage Mr. Herriman bought and sold a number of farms in Newton County. He had almost a genius for the development of land, and it was his custom to buy and improve a tract and after keeping it a short time sell out when the land was much more valuable than when he first took hold of it. Later he bought the old homestead in Washington Township where Mrs. Herriman now resides. They moved to this place in 1880 and most



of their children were born and reared there. Besides farming the late Mr. Herriman also manufactured ditching tile, and erected a tile yard on his own farm. He made the tile primarily for his own purpose in reclaiming the low and swampy grounds, but he also sold large quantities of it to his neighbors. Mr. Herriman was widely known in Newton County, had the reputation of strict honor and integrity and was always ready to sacrifice his own welfare for the benefit of the public in general. He was a staunch republican, and for several years served on the county council. Another feature of his farm improvement was the erection of a sawmill, which he operated until the timber on his land had been converted into merchantable lumber. Mr. Herriman died August 1, 1914. His was a useful and purposeful life. Mrs. Herriman is now living with some of her children at the old homestead, and she recently celebrated her seventieth birthday, though her mental vigor and activity in the management of her affairs would belie her age.

**SYLVESTER BRES.** The following sketch contains the important facts in the life and family record of a Newton County citizen whose name has always stood for all that is honest and of good report in this community, for successful thrift and business integrity, and for a position which all must respect. Sylvester Brees has lived in this county since early boyhood, for more than half a century, and as he knew some of the hardships of an earlier time so he has enjoyed the ample prosperity of the twentieth century.

He was born in Clinton County, Indiana, January 4, 1856, a son of Moses and Catherine (Gibson) Brees. His father was born in Darke County, Ohio, moved from there to Tippecanoe County, Indiana, later to Clinton County, and on September 10, 1861, arrived in Newton County with his wife and four children. They lived only a little while in Kentland and then moved to a farm in Jefferson Township, where Moses Brees spent his last years. He was owner of 160 acres in Jefferson Township at the time of his death, and had succeeded in converting most of this from a wild tract into cultivated fields. He was a republican and a member of the Christian Church.

Sylvester Brees was the oldest in a family of eight children. He lived with his parents until he was twenty-six years of age, and on January 10, 1882, married Miss Ettie E. Peterson. Her father, who was of Danish descent, was one of the early settlers of Washington Township in Newton County, and a sterling citizen, being a strong democrat in politics. Mr. and Mrs. Brees have seven children, all of whom are still living: Ethel L., Ivah L., Leslie A., Bernard W., Edith E., Velma and Florence C.

Mr. Brees and family are active members of Mount Zion United Brethren Church. After his marriage he engaged in farming in Washington Township on the farm of his wife's father, and actively





managed that until the death of Mr. Peterson. He and his wife have since acquired a large amount of land in Washington Township and also eighty acres in Iroquois County, Illinois. Mr. and Mrs. Brees are people of eminent worth, are well known socially, and have one of the homes of culture and hospitality of Newton County.

**WILLIAM T. McCARTY.** Few residents of Newton County have more thoroughly deserved the esteem and high standing among fellow citizens than Mr. McCarty, whose home has been in this county since boyhood. He has long been an active and successful farmer in Washington Township, has won a comfortable competence, and has also been an influential figure in political affairs.

He was born December 13, 1852, in Virginia, a son of James S. and Nancy (Hull) McCarty. His father was a native of Virginia and from there brought his family to Greene County, Ohio. He lived there for ten years, and in 1863 came to Newton County, Indiana. The family located in Washington Township, where the father was a renter for ten years. He then bought a place of twenty acres, and was identified with its cultivation and management and made it his home until his death in 1902. James S. McCarty was a citizen of much practical good sense, of great loyalty to his convictions, and a gentleman in every sense of the word. He was a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and was true to the teaching of Christianity and also a man of exemplary morality. He and his wife had ten children.

William T. McCarty lived at home with his parents, at first in Ohio and afterwards in Newton County, until he was twenty-four years of age. In the meantime he secured a fair amount of education, and has used good judgment in handling the emergencies of life as they came up.

On December 18, 1877, in Iroquois County, Illinois, he married Miss Eliza E. Flemming. To their union have been born eight children: Oscar, Mabel, Grant, Lillie, James D., Frank I., Nora M., and Agnes. These children have been carefully reared and trained, and most of them are already doing well as individuals.

In politics Mr. McCarty is a staunch republican. He has done much for the welfare of his party, and is properly deserving of any honor to which he may aspire. In 1900 he was an unsuccessful candidate on that ticket for county treasurer. He is now serving as a member of the township advisory board and is also again a candidate for the office of county treasurer. He and his family are active members of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

**GEORGE F. MERCHANT.** A couple of years ago George F. Merchant celebrated his seventieth anniversary. He is one of the residents of Newton County who have lived a full and honorable life time. He was a brave soldier in the trying times of the Civil war,



and though not a native American he played his part faithfully on many a well fought battlefield. He has been a resident of Newton County ever since the close of the Civil war, and has been industriously identified with its varied activities.

He was born in England November 9, 1811, a son of Joseph and Keziah (Hendbridge) Merchant. His parents came to America in 1852 when he was eight years of age. They located on a farm in Preble County, Ohio but in 1865 moved to Newton County, and buying land in Iroquois Township accomplished the task of the pioneer in developing a hitherto virgin wilderness. The father lived there until his death. He was a republican, a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and a man who stood high in the estimation of his fellow citizens.

George F. Merchant, who was the oldest in a family of seven children, lived with his parents until he was eighteen years of age. He then volunteered his services for the preservation of the Union. He enlisted in Company D of the Ninth Indiana Cavalry, and was with that noted regiment until the close of the war. His command was in many of the severe battles and campaigns of the Rebellion, and among other places where Mr. Merchant was under fire was the critical battle of Franklin, Tennessee. Some years ago he visited the old Franklin battlefield. His recollections of that hard day's fighting caused him to examine minutely the details of the ground over which he had fought. In one part of the field he found a stable which had been standing almost half a century, and in which he had captured a Confederate soldier. That old building more than anything else served to freshen the memories of half a century past and brought back to his mind many other details of the engagement.

About the time he returned home from the South his parents located in Newton County, and as a veteran soldier he began his career on a farm here.

On October 15, 1871, Mr. Merchant married Miss Martha Bell, a daughter of Harvey Bell of Iroquois Township. Her father was born in Cass County, Indiana, and came to Newton County in 1865. Mrs. Merchant was one of a family of seven children, being second in order of birth, and one of the four still living. Her father died in 1865 and her mother in 1900. Mr. Merchant and wife became the parents of four children, and three are still alive, Jay M., Chloe B., and Miriam.

**JOHN J. LAWLER.** More and more in recent years the land of Newton County has become favorite feeding grounds for some of the large livestock interests of the country. Owing to convenience to the great central market at Chicago, and also to the fact that up to very recent years land could be bought very cheaply and furnished, even in its wild condition at that time, an abundance of hay and other forage, progressive livestock men have seen the value in



secure these lands and employing them for fattening stock in readiness for the ultimate market.

Undoubtedly the presence of some of these stock men in the county and their holdings of land have had as great an influence on the development of Newton County as any other one factor. It is due to their progressive policies that ditching and tiling have been introduced, and as a result a conversion of vast tracts of low marsh lands, whose only product a few years ago was wild hay, into a wide expanse of fertile fields, producing some of the finest hay and grain crops in Indiana.

In 1892 the late Michael Lawler, Sr., one of the veteran traders at the Union stockyards at Chicago, first became interested in Newton County lands. He bought about 1,300 acres south of Rose Lawn. That land he subsequently deeded to his son John J. Lawler, who is its present owner. At various times John J. Lawler has added to these holdings, having purchased some 5,000 acres of the Gregory land from the Gregory estate, and about 10,000 acres of the Kent land from C. C. Kent. Various other parcels have been added at different times. While a part of this land has since been sold Mr. John J. Lawler at the present time has about 13,000 acres in one body—lying south of Rose Lawn and adjoining and west of the Town of Fair Oaks. This body of land lies altogether in one body and is some eight or nine miles long and four miles wide at its widest point and a mile and a half at the narrowest. In 1903 or 1904 Mr. Lawler bought some 4,000 acres lying in a single body north of Morocco, so that his entire holdings in Newton County aggregate some 17,000 acres.

When the Newton County land was bought, it was for the most part unimproved, had only a few crude buildings here and there and the greater part of the area was marshy, growing wild grass and in portions of the year was very wet. At first these tracts were used exclusively for ranching purposes, large numbers of cattle being grazed upon them, and large quantities of wild hay being cut and stored for forage. From the ranges of the West hundreds of carloads of cattle were brought to Newton County and were grazed during the summer season.

In the course of twenty years Mr. John J. Lawler has effected some wonderful improvements in the lands under his control. Big dredge ditches have been constructed, many open lateral ditches have been added and some parts of the land have been tiled so that great tracts are tillable and thousands of acres are used for growing corn and small grains and tame hay. Other thousands of acres are heavily set to blue grass. These blue grass pastures furnish grazing for from 2,000 to 4,000 cattle and from 1,000 to 2,000 hogs every year. Year by year there has been effected a transformation which is undoubtedly one of the most pregnant events in the history of Newton County. Where once was all waste, are now seen fertile farm lands, with commodious and sub-



stantial buildings, and some of the most modern farms found in Northwestern Indiana. Great areas have been reclaimed from the unproductive swamp, and land that formerly produced only grass and was suitable only for grazing purposes during a few months in the year, are now divided into farms, with tenants cultivating the soil from spring until fall, and the fact that all the grain and hay produced is fed to livestock means that the fertility is being replaced and the land is becoming more valuable every year.

Naturally other improvements have followed. Highways have been opened on section lines, and an extensive system of ditches and roadbeds has been made. More than twenty miles of gravel roads have been built through these bodies of land. The tracts are fenced and cross fenced with woven wire, supported by cedar posts, and out of the general improvement have been produced a number of moderate sized farms and pastures. The Lawler holdings now comprise about ten sets of complete farm improvements including large silos. Every one of these farm groups represents the highest standard of management and maintenance. It has been Mr. Lawler's aim throughout to improve the land and bring it to the highest state of cultivation and productiveness, and every year he is giving his best efforts toward that end.

As a result of his example the entire north end of Newton County has been vastly improved and developed. In this laudable work he has been associated with several other progressive land owners, and their united efforts have constituted a work whose benefits can already be realized. On account of the progressive policies he has carried through Mr. Lawler has naturally been the object of much admiration and respect by all the people of that section, and the policies he has put in practice are important not only for the material upbuilding of the county but also in the well being of the people, and the tenants on his land are among the most contented and satisfied people of Newton County. Mr. Lawler is one of the men who from the first understood the great future awaiting this section of the county, and his foresight enables him to look forward to still greater improvements which will come along with more intensive farming methods and the handling of livestock. The wonderful results can even now be seen in the heavy crops of corn and small grain grown every year, and these crops compare favorably with similar crops in the older and more favored sections of Indiana.

Jasper County has also benefited by the enterprise of Mr. Lawler. About 1896 he acquired his first holdings in that county by the purchase of an interest in some lands about two miles east of Rensselaer. From time to time he has bought other land until he now has about 3,500 acres in one farm a few miles east of Rensselaer, and about 1,800 acres in a farm just west of the city. Here again he has carried out the same ideas and policies of land improvements which have had such notable results in Newton County. He has erected several sets of farm improvements and silos, and has tiled,





dredged and cleared the land. These two tracts in Jasper County are now fully improved. Hedge fences have been pulled up and replaced by modern woven wire fence. Buildings have been overhauled, new ones erected and nothing has been neglected to put the land in the most profitable and productive condition. While the work on his own land constitutes a great public enterprise, Mr. Lawler has been equally public spirited in assisting every general community enterprise for new and better roads and ditches and has worked hand in hand with other progressive citizens in bringing about a transformation of Newton and Jasper counties for modern farming. His individual part has been a direct influence for good in every line of progress. Under his leadership grain grows where nothing of value was produced in former years, and many hundreds of cattle and hogs are fattened for the markets here on pastures and feeding grounds which at one time constituted wild game preserves.

Mr. John J. Lawler was born in Chicago February 14, 1866, and Chicago is still his home. His parents were Michael and Katherine (Mooney) Lawler. His father, a native of Ireland, came to America in the early fifties. He came to this country with his sister, Julia. The family first located in Patterson, New Jersey, where they resided two or three years. Moving to Chicago, Michael Lawler, Sr., engaged in the blacksmith business. In Ireland he had been in the cattle business. That experience opened the way for his real vocation in Chicago. After a few years he again took up that business at the old stock yards. Only a few people of this generation are aware that there were several stock yards in Chicago at the time Michael Lawler, Sr., began his operations there. One of these yards was at Twenty-second Street and Archer Avenue, another at Thirty-first and Cottage Grove, and still another on the west side. These three yards were subsequently merged into what is now the Union Stock Yards.

When mere boys John J. Lawler and his brother Michael, assisted their father in handling cattle at the Union Stock Yards and learned the business from the bottom up. Their father was one of the early traders in the Union Stock Yards and there are hundreds of old time cattle men throughout the country who have pleasant memories of their business dealings with this trader. About 1893 he retired from active business, and his two sons, John and Michael, succeeded him under the firm name of Lawler Brothers. In 1901 Michael, Jr., retired from the firm, and since that time Mr. John J. Lawler has been one of the prominent cattle dealers at the Union Stock Yards, continuing the business under his individual name. His brother Michael died in 1911. Michael Lawler, Sr., died in 1915, at a venerable age and after a lifetime of worthy successes. His wife died in 1871. There were five children in the family, and four are still living. Two of the sisters are now living with Mr. John J. Lawler at his home on Grand Boulevard in Chi-



cago. These sisters are both unmarried, and the other sister, now married, is also living in Chicago.

WILLIS HURLEY is connected with the development of the resources that nature has provided so luxuriantly in the section of the state, being well known as a representative of the agricultural interests of Barkley Township in Jasper County. A native son of that county he has spent his entire career within its borders and from earliest beginning, has worked his way to a position of independence, being now proprietor of an excellent farm homestead near the Village of Parr.

Born June 14, 1805, in Jasper County, he is a son of William B. Hurley, Sr., and Eliza Jane (Marion) Hurley, who were married in 1843. William B. Hurley, Jr., came to Jasper County with his parents in 1844, from Macon, Ohio, and located on 160 acres in Barkley Township, getting the land direct from the Government at the regular price of \$1.25 per acre. William B. Hurley, Jr., was one of six children, the others being named Jacob, Mary, deceased, Sarah Ann, deceased, John B., deceased, and Gilbert Henry, deceased. William and his two brothers Jacob and John B. all served in the Civil war in Company H of the Forty-eighth Indiana Infantry as privates. William B. was with Sherman on his march to the sea, took part in the great battle of Gettysburg, and was also in at the siege of Charleston. His brothers, John and Jacob, fought at Bull Run and Lookout Mountain and were also at Gettysburg. After the war William B., Jr., located on the Hurley homestead with his family, and there he and his wife reared their six children, namely: Mary, deceased; Anna, Willis, Rose, Laura, and Silva, deceased. Those living are all residents of Jasper County except Ann, whose home is in Porter County.

On December 29, 1887, Willis Hurley married Miss Rachel L. Call, daughter of George W. and Delila (Price) Call, who were numbered among the old settlers of Barkley Township. Mr. and Mrs. Hurley became the parents of seven children. Their names are: Elbert, Lilly, Mae, Eliza, Laura, and Della and Mella, twins, both now deceased. The son Elbert, married Ivy Swain, while Lilly married Herbert Dariott.

In his political affiliations Willis Hurley is a republican, and the confidence and esteem which he enjoys among his neighbors and fellow citizens have been increased by five years of successful service as township supervisor. He is a member of the Christian Church, and is affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, while Mrs. Hurley is a member of the Rebekahs. Mr. Hurley has many interesting recollections of Jasper County during its development from little less than a wilderness condition, and in his boyhood he rounded up the live stock from the prairies and woods, since very little of the land was fenced and the country was practically an open range.



FRANCIS M. HERSHMAN. Perhaps no name occurs more frequently in the early and later annals of Walker Township in Jasper County than that of Hershman. There was both the old and the new Hershman school, which were attended by a great many of the substantial men and women now found in different parts of the county. The Hershman family was an excellent type of the pioneer stock. What sons of the earlier generation won by hard work and privation from the dominion of the wilderness, others have subsequently enjoyed in a quieter and more up to date age. One of these is Francis M. Hershman, who was an infant when brought to Jasper County and in his earlier years went through a great deal of hard labor in order to lay securely the foundations of his own career. He is one of the valued and prosperous residents of Walker Township.

Born October 12, 1852, in Coshocton County, Ohio, he is a son of John L. and Maria (Davisson) Hershman, who were married in 1851 in Jasper County, Indiana, where they and their respective families had lived from the very earliest pioneer times. After their marriage they went back to Ohio, remained there two years, and in 1854 permanently located in Jasper County. Here John L. Hershman acquired eighty acres of Government land, for which he paid \$1.25 per acre. While his career was that of agriculture, in the early days he was well known as a hunter and trapper, and did much of that typical work in order to provide a livelihood for his family. He was a democrat in politics, and should be remembered for his splendid service to Walker Township as its trustee, an office he held for twelve years. While he was in that office he built the new Walker, the Schneider and the Hershman schools, all of which at the time they were built represented the latest and most approved standards of public school architecture and equipment. John L. Hershman was one of the truest exponents of the American educational ideals. He not only supported schools but all other public enterprises, and was a man whose influence is not likely soon to be forgotten in Jasper County. He was a member of the Christian Church. He passed away at the end of a long and honored career in November, 1909.

There were twelve children in the Hershman family, their names being set down as follows: Francis, John S., deceased; Sarah C., James R., Walter H., Charles E., Mary B., Emma May, George Elmer, deceased; Alva D., Lilly A., deceased, and William H. All the living children are married and have homes of their own. These children attended school and got their education in Walker Township. This schooling began in the old Walker School when Miss Mary Kessler was the teacher. The children had to walk a distance of five miles night and morning in order to reach this schoolhouse. It was a characteristic schoolhouse of the times. Built of logs, had split log benches without backs and a broad board extending around part of the room as a writing desk. Later, the



children attended the Hershman, and finished their education there.

When he was quite a young man Francis M. Hershman started out on his own resources. For several years he dealt in stock, and also operated the old home farm. Farming has been his real substantial vocation all his active career, and many will be found to say that the county has no more progressive agriculturist than this resident of Walker Township.

On the 12th of January, 1884, Mr. Hershman married Mary Hofferland, daughter of Joseph and Annetta (Saddler) Hofferland. To their marriage have been born five children, Charles Edward, Florence Marie, Dolly M., Frederick Abel and Paul. The three older children are now married. In politics Mr. Hershman is a democrat, and like his father before him he served as township trustee for one term. He has done his part in building up and maintaining good schools and has seldom neglected an opportunity to do what he could to advance the community welfare.

**MEDDIE SEGO.** Among the men of Newton County who have long been identified with agricultural pursuits and whose labors are reflected in the beautiful country homes and productive farms which give this locality prestige among the farming communities of the state, Meddie Sego, present county commissioner from Jefferson Township, is worthy of more than passing notice. He comes of an Illinois family and since coming to Newton County thirty-three years ago has manifested not only his commendable industry but also a fine integrity and capability in his relations to the public welfare.

He was born March 31, 1859, in Kankakee County, Illinois, a son of Louis C. and Mary (Thaleurs) Sego, both of whom were natives of Canada. His father came to the United States some time in the '30s and died about twenty years ago.

In the Illinois home of his parents Meddie Sego was reared, received a common school education, and lived there until he was twenty-three years of age. On Christmas day of 1882 he married Miss Mary O'Donald. They were married in Kankakee County, Illinois. Into their household have come by birth eleven children. Seven are still living, named Martin L., Meddie, Mary, Arthur, Anna, Agnes and Loretta.

In 1883, the year following his marriage, Mr. Sego brought his bride to Newton County and located in Jefferson Township, with which locality his activities have since been so creditably identified. For the first twelve years he was a renter and he and his wife practiced thrift as well as industry in laying the foundation of a permanent prosperity. Mr. Sego then bought eighty acres in section 27 of Jefferson Township and has called that his old homestead for the past twenty-one years. His success has enabled him to acquire other tracts of land, including a second eighty acres, and also a farm of 160 acres in Grant Township. His home place is





located two and a half miles east of Kentland. Mr. and Mrs. Sego have one of the very attractive rural residences of this beautiful farming community. The home sits back some distance from the road in order to command a broad and entrancing view of the surrounding country. In front passes the main gravel road between Kentland and Goodland. The farm is noted for its fine style, for its excellent product, and has thorough equipment in the way of machinery, buildings and other facilities.

Recognized as one of the public spirited men of Newton County, Mr. Sego was elected in 1912 to the office of county commissioner. He has given a very successful administration, and has used his influence in every way to promote the general improvement and advancement of his home county. He was elected as a democrat. Mr. Sego is a member of St. Joseph's Catholic Church at Kentland and is affiliated with the Knights of Columbus and Independent Order of Foresters. He is a lover and breeder of fine stock and his farm is the home of some excellent cattle, hogs and horses.

**WILLIAM MARTIN.** As a rule only men of exceptional fitness and responsibility are elected to the office of township trustee in the State of Indiana. It is one of the most important offices in the county government. The present incumbent of that office in Jefferson Township in Newton County is William Martin. Mr. Martin is a practical and progressive farmer. He has also had experience as a merchant. He represents one of the old family names of Newton County and people have confidence in him for his name and also for his individual accomplishments since he started out independently.

He was born March 11, 1879, in Jefferson Township. His parents are Charles T. and Sarah (Herriman) Martin. Both of them were natives of Warren County, Indiana, but Charles T. Martin has been a resident of Newton County since 1852. This county was practically a wilderness when he came, and he has witnessed its remarkable development for more than sixty years. He is now living in Kentland.

The fourth in a family of nine children, William Martin grew up on the old homestead, attended the common schools, and remained under the parental roof until he was twenty-one years of age. His enterprise then led him to engage in the hardware business at Boswell in Benton County, Indiana. He was a member of the firm of Harris and Martin there for three years, at the end of which time he sold out and returned to the old home farm in Newton County. Here for a dozen years or more he has shown the qualities of management which make a success of farming in this section of Northwest Indiana, and his name is also noted among the leading stock raisers of the community. His specialty is the breeding of Hereford cattle and he also has eighteen head of high grade horses



on his farm. Mr. Martin is a member of the Corn Growers' Association and also belongs to the Hereford Cattle Association.

Anything that concerns the public welfare is a matter of concern to William Martin. Politically his affiliations have been with the democratic party. Six years ago he was a candidate for the office of county commissioner on that ticket but suffered defeat. In 1914 his fellow citizens in Jefferson Township elected him trustee, and he has that office for the regular term of four years. He is giving a careful and conscientious administration of the office, particularly in its connection with the schools. Mr. Martin has taken his first degrees in Masonry, is a member of the Knights of Pythias, of Kentland, Indiana, belongs to the Christian Church and is serving on the library board.

On April 13, 1904, he married Maude M. Milten. Mrs. Martin's people were English and her father was for many years in the mercantile business at Madena, Indiana. Mr. and Mrs. Martin have two children: Ruby V., born April 6, 1905, who died in infancy, and Alice Belle, born September 12, 1909.

**WILLIAM B. ANDERSON.** A representative of one of the old and honored families of Newton County, Mr. Anderson is well upholding the prestige of the name which he bears and is one of the most substantial farmers and public spirited citizens of Jefferson Township.

He is one of the few men now past sixty years of age who can claim Newton County as their birthplace. His birth occurred April 23, 1855, in Jefferson Township. That date itself indicates that his parents were among the very early settlers here. In fact his father came to the county when it was still a part of Jasper County. His parents were Joel and Matilda (Montgomery) Anderson. His father, a native of Kentucky, was a farmer by occupation, and came to Newton County when almost the entire country was an unsettled wilderness. He entered a quarter section of Government land and spent twenty-five years in improving and cultivating it. He died at the old home in 1876. Politically he was a democrat. Joel Anderson and his wife were married July 14, 1850, and they had a family of five children. The mother of these died in 1862, when William, who was the third in age, was seven years.

After the death of his mother William and his brother John, who is now deceased, lived in the home of Benjamin Timmons in Benton County, later with Henry Steermans, following which they were again at the old home farm, and then lived at the home of John Roberts and with James Martin's family. After the death of his brother William B. Anderson acquired some 380 acres of land in Newton County, and has for years been successfully engaged in farming and stock raising on a large scale. Besides his property in Newton County he owned a section and a half of land in Texas, and has a substantial residence in Brook.



His home is on the old homestead and under his direction many substantial improvements have been added, including residence, barn, outbuildings, and a complete equipment of machinery for thorough and systematic farming. As a stock raiser he favors the Hereford cattle, has some very fine Poland China hogs and keeps the better grade of horses.

In 1884 Mr. Anderson married Miss Nancy Shoaf. Into their home have been born three children: Gladys, Lola and Connie. Mr. Anderson is an active member of the Methodist Episcopal Church at Kentland, while in politics he is a republican. His public spirit has always led him to enlist his efforts and sympathies in connection with any movement for the public benefit.

CHARLES WHITE, now living practically retired at Kentland, won his prosperity as a Newton County farmer. Hard work and perseverance had their reward in his case and he has also shown a great deal of accurate judgment in placing his investments and in handling his various affairs to a fortunate issue. He is both well and favorably known.

He is all but a native son of Newton County. His birth occurred May 15, 1856, in Hamilton County, Ohio. When he was about six months of age his parents George W. and Jane (Myers) White moved to Indiana and arrived in Newton County November 21, 1856. All this county was then sparsely settled and little developed. George White pre-empted land on soldier's claims and in that way acquired about 240 acres, all located in Jefferson Township. He was not only one of the early settlers, but also one of the ablest of those who laid the foundation for this county's great prosperity. Much of the development work over many tracts of land was performed by him or under his supervision. He invested in lands extensively, and at the time of his death owned an estate of some 800 acres. George W. White was born in Ohio and died in 1906, while his wife passed away in 1903. He was active in republican politics, was a member of the Knights of Pythias Lodge and people knew and respected him for his integrity of character, his public spirited endeavor and also for his material success. In his time and generation he was one of the leading stock raisers of Jefferson Township. He seldom kept less than thirty head of good horses, and also a large number of cattle and hogs.

In a family of three sons and three daughters Charles White was the oldest. Reared in Newton County in the early days, when school facilities were few and far between, he received such advantages as could be afforded and was well trained in the virtues of industry and straightforward living. He spent the first twenty-five years of his life at home and he then married Martha A. Pierce, whose people came from New Jersey and were also numbered among the early settlers of Newton County. Mr. and Mrs. White have four children: John D., Edgar C., Harry H., and Flossy J.



After his marriage Mr. White began as a renter and rented land for some ten years. In the meantime he began his investments and has since acquired a large amount of valuable real estate both in the country and in the town. Most of his property is in Jefferson Township, and he has also sold part of his land to his children. In 1905 he moved to Kentland, in which city he has some valuable property and in 1900 he erected a beautiful residence in the edge of town, where he and his wife now reside surrounded with every comfort and convenience. A fine orchard which he set out in 1911 is now in full bearing. Politically Mr. White is a republican.

SAMUEL A. MEANS is one of the oldest residents of Newton County, particularly of Jefferson Township. Sixty years ago he acquired his first foothold in the county. He did not make a permanent settlement at that time, but came back and endured all the hardships and vicissitudes of pioneering. The years had their reward. His success is represented by one of the finest farms of the county and he has long since been able to pass his years in comparative ease, though he still gives an active supervision to his farm.

He was born November 20, 1837, in Mifflin County, Pennsylvania, a son of Robert A. and Elizabeth (McMitt) Means. His father was a native of Pennsylvania while the grandfather came from County Derry, Ireland.

The second in a family of seven children, Samuel A. Means grew up in the family household back in Pennsylvania. His father was a thrifty farmer and a member of the Presbyterian Church. Under such influences Samuel A. Means spent his boyhood and lived at home until he was twenty-eight. Under the Emergency Act in Pennsylvania he enlisted in 1863 to repel the army of invasion under General Lee and served six months in Company H of the Thirty-sixth Pennsylvania Infantry.

Mr. Means first came to Newton County in 1856. He located a tract of land in Grant Township, but soon afterwards returned to Pennsylvania, where he married Priscilla P. Laird. After returning to this country he and his wife located on the land in Grant Township and lived there eight years. In that time he plowed some of the prairies which had never borne anything but the virginal fruit of the wilderness and he and his wife led the necessarily restricted and lonely career of the early settlers. It was a life of hardship sweetened with the pleasures of home and the anticipations of future years. It was an earnest and determined struggle, and Mr. Means long since had the satisfaction of seeing that his efforts were rewarded.

In his experience there has been a great increase in land values in Newton County. The land he now owns and on which he resides in Jefferson Township he bought at \$8 an acre. Only recently he





bought some adjoining land from C. C. Kent and paid for it \$200 an acre. His farm now contains 200 acres and is regarded as one of the most fertile and productive tracts of agricultural land in the county. For many years grain growing has been a special industry of the Means farm.

Mr. Means and family reside in a beautiful residence which he erected in 1875. It is located about two and a half miles from Kentland, and it is well provided with all the conveniences and comforts as well as with facilities for the profitable direction of the farm. There Mr. Means is spending his declining years. Though seventy-eight, he is still hale and hearty and enjoys the esteem of a host of friends all over the county. As a young man he cast his first ballot for Abraham Lincoln for president, and since then has been a steadfast republican, although his father was an equally ardent democrat. He is a Presbyterian and has contributed liberally to church affairs.

Mrs. Means died in 1913. There were eight children: James A., now deceased; Anna K., Elizabeth B., Francis A., Bertha, J. R., Ada L., Janette T. The daughter Anna K. graduated from Oberlin College in Ohio and continued her higher studies in Berlin, Germany, and for a number of years has been a very successful teacher, having held responsible positions in various schools in Indiana and also for a time taught at Honolulu in the Hawaiian Islands. The other children also had the advantages of a liberal education.

**ASBERRY STROLE.** Prominent among the agriculturists in Jefferson Township of Newton County who are carrying on farming operations of the most approved methods is Asberry Strole. Mr. Strole has relied upon hard work, good judgment, and abundant energy to carry him forward in the race of life. He has been prospered, has reared a family of children to do him honor, and enjoys the respect and admiration of an entire community.

A native of Virginia, he was born in that old commonwealth March 13, 1848, a son of William A. and Sarah (Kibler) Strole. His father was also a native of Virginia, and when Asberry was a boy came West and located first in Illinois, where he was engaged in farming for five years. The Strole family is among the pioneers in Newton County, where they established their home in 1859. William A. Strole was actively engaged in farming in Washington Township, where he owned a farm of eighty acres, and he also had a farm of 122 acres in Jefferson township. He located on the Jefferson Township farm in 1865 and lived there until his death in 1874. His widow survived him many years and passed away in 1894. William Strole was a man of great energy and was unusually successful in the raising of cattle and hogs. At the time of his death he owned 400 acres. By trade, he was a miller, an occupation he had learned when young, and a considerable part of his life was devoted to that calling.



The second of his parents' children, Asberry Strole, secured his education from some of the early schools of Newton County. He lived in the home of his father until he was twenty three, and then started out as a renter. In that way he laid the foundation for a larger success and has now for many years carried on independent operations on his own farm, and has secured an ample competence for all his future needs.

In March, 1876, he married Miss Jassie Robbins, a daughter of Harry Robbins. To their marriage were born four children: Grace E., Oscar J., Sarah A. and Francis L. These children all had excellent home advantages and were given ample training for their respective careers in the local schools.

**JEPHTHA B. STATON.** The business of farming is at once one of the oldest and most honorable occupations of men. It is to that business that Jephtha B. Staton has given the best years of his life. He is still a young man and has already won what most people would regard as a competence.

On the farm where he now resides with his widowed mother, he was born in Jefferson township of Newton County, October 23, 1875. His parents were Joseph and Sarah J. (White) Staton. The father, who died twenty-two years ago, was a native of Boone County, Indiana, and was one of the pioneers of Newton County. He bought a tract of wild land there, improved it from the wilderness, and lived on it until the time of his death. He also made an honorable record as a soldier in the Civil war, going out with an Indiana regiment and giving a faithful service until the time of his discharge. After leaving the army he married Miss Sarah J. White. Her father, Amos White, was one of the pioneer characters of Newton County. He built the house which for many years has been a landmark and which is still occupied by a distant relative, John White. Amos White became one of the best known early stock dealers in this part of Indiana, and owned an extensive amount of farm land and other real estate. After his marriage Joseph Staton devoted his time to his farm and was noted for his success as a horse raiser. He was widely known, popular, honorable and upright, and his name is one that is still spoken with the respect it deserves in Newton County. He was an active republican, and voted that ticket from his early years until the end. He and his wife were the parents of seven children, three of whom are still living.

Fourth in age in the family, Jephtha B. Staton has spent practically all his years on the old homestead where he was born. The common schools of the county gave him an education and he learned farming by practical experience. He was about seventeen when his father died and he then took charge of the homestead and settled up the estate. His mother still holds the title to the old farm, and Mr Staton while living there and actively managing it, is also an



individual land owner. His first purchase was eighty acres of the Littlejohn estate, and later he bought the Jacob Shiltz farm of 120 acres. With these holdings he is in a position to carry on his favorite occupation on a large scale, and is one of the prosperous men of Newton County.

Since he arrived at voting age he has been interested in politics, and is one of the leading republicans of the county. Two years ago he was defeated in the campaign for township trustee and is now a candidate for the office of county commissioner. He is a member of the Christian Church and is affiliated with the Knights of Pythias and the Modern Woodmen of America.

Mr. Staton married for his first wife Miss Eva McIlwain. She died in 1906, leaving two children, Lloyd K., born February 8, 1903, and Virginia May, born October 13, 1901. In 1913 Mr. Staton married Miss Eva J. Stocksledger, a daughter of David Stocksledger of Iroquois Township, Newton County. Mr. and Mrs. Staton have one daughter, Janice J.

**PAUL SCHUETTE.** By reason of his extensive management of a splendid farming property in Iroquois Township, and by his ability as an upright and progressive citizen, Paul Schuette deserves special mention among the citizens of that part of Newton County.

This family has been actively identified with Newton County agricultural affairs more than a quarter of a century. Mr. Paul Schuette was born December 24, 1872, in La Salle County, Illinois, a son of Henry and Henrietta (Meitue) Schuette. The mother was of German ancestry. Henry Schuette was born in Germany, a son of Henry Sr., who came to America in 1865, locating in Ottawa, Illinois. Grandfather Henry subsequently moved to Marseilles, Illinois, where he lived until his death in 1881. Henry Schuette Jr. was for twenty-one years a resident of Ottawa, Illinois, and then came to Iroquois Township in Newton County, where he was a successful general farmer until his death in 1905. He was a member of the German Lutheran Church. Of his family of two sons and two daughters three are now living, Paul being the oldest.

Since his father's death Paul Schuette has been active manager of the family estate, comprising one of the very valuable farms of Iroquois Township located east of Brook. The estate has not been divided, and Mr. Paul Schuette has had the chief responsibilities of the management for the past ten years. He and his family are active members of the Lutheran Church at Goodland, and politically he is a republican, a political faith which both his father and grandfather held.

On August 1, 1910, Mr. Schuette married Miss Clara Schultz. They are people entitled to the utmost respect and have made every sacrifice in behalf of their children. They are the parents of three: Herman, born in 1911; Clarence, born in 1912, and Earl, born in 1915.



WILLIAM S. CUNNINGHAM has been a resident of Newton County the greater part of half a century. He has been one of the live and energetic business men of this community, and his name is especially associated with the grain and coal trade. Successful in business, he has not neglected the public welfare, and is a man who can be depended upon for helpful support wherever the best interests of his home town are concerned.

He was born in Sheldon, Illinois, June 23, 1865, a son of Terrence and Oregon (Bramble) Cunningham. His father was born in Ireland and was brought to America by the grandfather, Terrence Cunningham Sr., who located in Lafayette, Indiana, and moved from there to Logansport, which was his home until his death. Terrence Jr. first came to Kentland in Newton County in 1861, soon after the first railroad had reached that place, and he was prominently identified with the pioneer life of the village and surrounding country. His name should be closely associated with those who laid the foundations of modern prosperity there. Further details concerning this pioneer citizen will be found on other pages of this publication. Terrence Cunningham was the father of a family of seven children, six of whom are still living.

William S. Cunningham grew up largely in Newton County, attended the public schools, and at the beginning of his business career entered the grain trade at Brook, Indiana, under the firm name of T. Cunningham & Son. That firm had a prosperous existence from 1888 to 1905, when the business was sold.

Since 1905 Mr. Cunningham has been in business under his individual name as a wholesale and retail coal merchant of Brook.

On December 17, 1890, at Kentland he married Miss Clara Thompson, daughter of Mr. James Thompson. Mrs. Cunningham's people came to Indiana from Illinois. Fraternally Mr. Cunningham is affiliated with Brook Lodge No. 670, Free and Accepted Masons, which he has served as secretary for three years, and he also belongs to the Knights of Pythias. Politically he is an independent voter.

EDGAR STEWARD. One of the comfortable country homes of Jackson Township in Newton County, a place adding to the distinctive character of prosperity and well ordered enterprise in that section, is the Steward place, now owned and occupied by Edgar Steward, who acquired it from his father, the late Sidney Steward. This is one of the oldest families in Jasper and Newton counties, having been established here long before the era of railroads. The various members did their full share in the strenuous toil of the pioneers.

It was in Jackson Township of Newton County that Mr. Edgar Steward was born February 24, 1868. His parents were Sidney and Mary (Ham) Steward. The grandfather was William Steward, who about 1840 brought his family from Ohio and settled at Rensselaer, Jasper County. There he helped establish the early





industrial character of the village, being engaged for five years in the manufacture of brick. Much of the product of his obliques went into the construction of some of the earliest homes and business places of Jasper County. From Jasper County William Steward moved in 1845 to Jackson Township of Newton County, and thereafter was a practical farmer until 1853, when he went to Iowa and died. He reared a family of three sons and two daughters.

The late Sidney Steward was twice married. His first wife, Louisa, had four sons and three daughters. In 1894 he married for his second wife Mrs. Mary (Hann) Reid. She became the mother of two children, the older being Mr. Edgar Steward. For eight years the late Sidney Steward was a resident of Iowa, but then returned to Newton County and bought the farm of eighty acres in Jackson Township, where he lived from 1878 until his death in 1907. He was a staunch republican, for many years a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, served as supervisor of Jackson Township, and was in every way a most creditable and highly honored citizen. His wife, the mother of Edgar Steward, died in 1890.

Mr. Edgar Steward grew up on the home farm in Jackson Township, gained his education by attending the local schools, and was well prepared to assume the duties and responsibilities of life by the time he came to manhood. After the death of his father he bought the old home, and now has a choice place of seventy acres given over to the growing of the staple crops of Newton County. He has also manifested a public spirited interest in local affairs, and for several years was supervisor and is now assessor of Jackson Township. In political affiliation he is a staunch republican.

**W. A. HARRINGTON.** For upwards of forty years W. A. Harrington has lived in Newton County. Those have been years of productive labor, of public spirited enterprise, and few men have left a stronger impress upon their home locality than Mr. Harrington. He was not a wealthy man when he came to this county, and his prosperity has been the fruit of long continued work, good management, and an unselfish interest in the life and affairs of his community.

His birth occurred April 27, 1837, in Summit County, Ohio. His parents were Job and Susan (Harper) Harrington. His father was born in Vermont, representing rugged New England ancestry, and afterwards moved out to Ohio, where he spent his years as a substantial farmer.

Next to the youngest in a family of nine children, W. A. Harrington spent the first twenty-one years of his life under the parental roof. In that time he attended such schools as existed in his part of Ohio, learned to be honest, thrifty and industrious, and was thus well equipped for the battle of life. On leaving home he bought a farm of eighty acres in Northampton, Summit County,



Ohio, and was engaged in its management until 1879. He was then engaged in buying and selling faras, and was also engaged in buying and selling dairy cows for fifteen years, having bought hundreds of cows every spring and sold them to eastern buyers by ear load lots. In 1886 he leased of Colo A. D. Straight his farm 5½ miles northeast of Goodland, Indiana, containing 2,000 acres. They owned all stock jointly. After Mr. Straight's death Mr. Harrington leased the farm for cash rent.

At the age of twenty-three Mr. Harrington married Miss Patty Carter, whose people were also of Summit County, Ohio. Mr. and Mrs. Harrington lived together for fifty-four years as man and wife, shared each other's joys and sorrows, and carefully reared and trained a household of children. Mrs. Harrington died July 25, 1914. The eight children of their union were named: May, Floyd, Arthur, Ford and Forest (twins), Clyde, Maud, and Ella J., but the last named died in infancy.

Fraternally Mr. Harrington is affiliated with Goodwin Lodge No. 346, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, and has passed all the chairs in the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. After coming to Newton County he bought forty acres of land, and farm that modest beginning developed into one of the leading land owners and real estate dealers in this section of Indiana. Nearly all of his transactions in the real estate field have been for himself and with his own capital. He gradually increased his holding until they amounted to 2,000 acres of land in Laporte County. He lived on this land and personally supervised its cultivation and management until his removal to Goodland, where he now resides. From Goodland he has extended his operations in the buying of land to various parts of Indiana and other states. He has handled a large amount of city property as well as farm lands. For twelve years Mr. Harrington operated livery stables at Goodland and Wanatah, and that business may be said to have been the foundation of his successful career as a real estate dealer. He is one of the leading stock raisers of Newton County or of Northern Indiana. Mr. Harrington is that type of citizen who has done most for building up his home town of Goodland by his active support of business interests and by using his own means to benefit the locality.

**HARRY RUSHWORTH KURRIE.** As president of the great Monon Railway System, Harry Rushworth Kurrie occupies a position of importance and influence. He was born at Paoli, Orange County, Indiana, April 26, 1875, and is a son of Sebastian and Susan Elizabeth (Walls) Kurrie. The family is of German descent. The family home was at Paoli for many years and there both parents died.

Harry R. Kurrie attended school at Paoli during boyhood and remained in his native place until he was about twenty years of age. In 1902 he became connected with the Monon Railroad as



assistant general solicitor, and on January 1, 1910, he was appointed general attorney of the Monon System, continuing in that position until September 1, 1914, when he was elected president of the same.

Mr. Kurrie has had other important interests, is a well known member of the Jasper County bar, and from 1895 until 1913 practiced law at Rensselaer, Indiana, being a member of the law firm of Foltz, Spittler & Kurrie. Although not personally connected with their operation, Mr. Kurrie owns farming lands and city, business properties.

On October 10, 1900, Mr. Kurrie was married to Miss Grace Thompson, who died without issue, February 10, 1907. Mr. Kurrie was married on December 5, 1909, to his sister-in-law, Miss Edna Thompson, and they have two sons: Harry R., who was born October 27, 1910, and Thompson, born July 14, 1913.

In politics Mr. Kurrie has always been a republican, and on that ticket he was elected city attorney of Rensselaer, but otherwise has accepted no public office. He is identified with the Masonic fraternity, a member of the Blue Lodge at Rensselaer.

**NOAH E. SHRIVER.** In the farming district of Newton County are many prosperous and progressive men who believe that the happiest life as well as the most independent is to be lived on the farm. Prominent among these is Mr. Noah E. Shriver, of Jackson Township. Mr. Shriver has spent most of his years in this section of Indiana, and is known all over Newton County as an excellent farmer and a man who can be depended upon in matters of local moment.

He was born in Guernsey County, Ohio, August 13, 1837, a son of Jacob and Dimcus (Buchanan) Shriver. His father was of Pennsylvania German stock, was born in Ohio, and in 1849 settled in Jasper County, Indiana. He was one of the first to improve and cultivate the lands of that county, and went through all the hardships of pioneering. He gained more than a local reputation as a successful grower of grain and livestock in that early day, and his ability and industry enabled him to accumulate a well improved estate of 360 acres. He died in 1866. He was an active member of the Baptist Church, and a citizen whose name was always spoken with the respect which his life had well deserved. Of his nine children, four are now living.

Noah E. Shriver was reared partly in Ohio and partly in Jasper County, Indiana; gained an education in the local schools, and at the age of twenty-six was attracted to the far west and the adventures and excitement of the mining fields. He went to Montana in 1861, with an ox team, the trip having been of four months duration. He was engaged in gold mining in that state for 2½ years. From there he returned to Newton County, Indiana, going down the Yellowstone River and the Missouri River in flat boats to Omaha.



He subsequently bought the interests of the other heirs in the old home coal. He and another brother are still living there, and they have made it one of the best farms in Jackson Township. Mr. Noah Shriver has also acquired 200 acres of land of his own, and has introduced improvements and methods of cultivation which rank this as one of the fine country estates in Newton County.

July 14, 1897, Mr. Shriver married Miss Ellen B. Bonesteel. They are the parents of two children, Charles and Lewis. Charles Shriver is an agriculturist and stockman, and resides with his father. He is a democrat and a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Lewis Shriver is also a substantial farmer. He wedded Minnie Romine and they have three children, two daughters and one son, Ruth, Esther and Paul. Mr. Lewis Shriver is a democrat, and he and his wife are Methodists. Their home is in Jackson Township.

Mr. Shriver is a staunch member of the Methodist Episcopal Church and has been a class leader forty-four years at the North Star Church. He is a Jeffersonian democrat, and cast his first vote for Stephen A. Douglas. He has purchased 520 acres in Newton County and now, after dividing with his sons, he has about 200 acres. Their estate is known as "High View Stock Farm." Mr. Shriver held the office of township assessor of Jackson Township for five years.

**THOMAS LACY DAVIS.** Few among the business citizens of Newton County have won more deserved success than that which has rewarded the earnest and well directed efforts of Thomas L. Davis of Brook. Mr. Davis has had a varied and active career, not only in this section of Northwestern Indiana but in other states. He has been known as a farmer, a merchant, a real estate dealer, and is now one of the proprietors of a splendidly equipped garage and automobile repair industry at Brook.

He was born August 4, 1867, in Hamilton County, Indiana, a son of Eleby and Mary (Pool) Davis. His father, who was a native of North Carolina, came to Indiana in 1856 with a family of two children. He first located at Fortville in Hancock County, afterwards moved to Laclede County, Missouri, returned to Hamilton County in 1860, and after a residence there of a number of years moved in 1873 to Clinton County. In 1897 he took up his residence in Terhune, Boone County, Indiana, where he lived until his death in 1901. He was a man of fine character, active in community affairs, and a devout member of the Quaker Church, doing all he could to support religious activities in the various communities where he lived. He was the father of a family of five sons and three daughters. Four of his sons and two of his daughters are still living.

Next to the youngest in the family, T. L. Davis grew up on his father's farm, and had a common school education. He first came to Newton County in 1884. For four years he was employed





as a laborer on a farm. He then determined to establish a home of his own, and on December 20, 1888, married Miss Marietta Moffett. To their marriage were born four children. Two are still living: Ruby E. and Malcolm W. Ruby E. graduated from the Brook High School with the class of 1908 and entered the Chicago Musical Institute where she spent one year and took dramatic art. She wedded D. P. Dickinson, and they are in the dramatic business. Malcolm W. completed the public school course and is now a member of the class of 1917 of the Brook High School. These children have received the best advantages at home and in the local schools and Mr. and Mrs. Davis are people who do the best for their own children and lend their helpfulness to neighbors and the community at large.

In 1893 Mr. Davis moved from Newton County to Northwestern Iowa where he was a resident until 1897. Returning to Newton County he bought a farm, but in 1903 moved to Mokence, Illinois, and for a year was a merchant. In 1904 he bought his present home in Brook, Indiana, and was actively engaged in the real estate business until 1908. In that year he turned his attention to the automobile business. In February, 1913, he formed a partnership with Howard Myers under the firm name of Davis & Myers. They operate one of the largest garages in Northwestern Indiana. For the accommodation of their business they erected a brick building 60 by 100 feet, large enough to furnish storage for fifty automobiles, and they also have a repair shop with competent mechanics in charge and a large share of the automobile repairing in this section of the state is done in their quarters. They carry a full line of automobile accessories and they have succeeded in making the word service mean something in their business. Mr. Davis is actively affiliated with Brook Lodge No. 670, Free and Accepted Masons, and also with the Knights of Pythias Castle Hall No. 77, at Brook, Indiana, and the Modern Woodmen of America, Camp No. 538, at Laurens, Iowa.

MARTIN G. BARKER. That farming can be conducted as a successful business in the same class as a store or factory needs no other proof than a visit to the farm of Martin G. Barker in Jackson Township of Newton County. He has a number of acres under cultivation, a group of well arranged, substantially built house and farm buildings which are the chief point of attractions to the visitor, and on every hand are evidences of good management and efficiency.

Not only has he succeeded as a farmer, but also in those other accomplishments of which success in life is measured. Though he comes of a family that has been identified with this section of Indiana since pioneer times, Mr. Barker was born in Nebraska, January 15, 1869. His parents were John and Josephine (Matson) Barker, the former a native of Indiana and the latter of Maryland. The Barker family originally came from England. His grandfather,



Thomas R. Barker, came to Indiana in the early days and located along the banks of the Tippecanoe River in White County. He was a farmer and cattle trader. Later he moved to Jackson Township in Newton County, and lived there until his death, being known as a successful farmer and an upright citizen. It was in Newton County that John Barker was born. He was a soldier of the great war between the states, enlisting at the beginning, and being in service until the close of hostilities. After the war he returned home and took up farming, married, and moved out to Nebraska, where he engaged in farming.

Martin G. Barker was the eldest of three children, two now living. When he was four years of age his father died, and after that he lived with his grandmother in Nebraska for some years, and finally returned to Newton County, where he spent ten years as a farm laborer and three years as a renter. He then went to live on his grandfather's farm in Jackson Township. This place comprised 140 acres, and it has been under the active proprietorship of Mr. Barker for a number of years.

On January 2, 1902, he married Miss Aletha Deardurff, a daughter of George Deardurff, who was one of the early settlers of Newton County. Mr. and Mrs. Barker are the parents of two children: Orphia and Bertha.

As to political affiliations Mr. Barker has always been a democrat, and his sterling qualities of character and absolute rectitude have been recognized by his promotion to various positions of trust and responsibility. For seven years he served as supervisor of Jackson Township, was township assessor four years, and on January 1, 1916, retired from the faithful administration of the office of county commissioner.

Mrs. ELLA HUNTINGTON of Mount Ayr in Newton County is one of the gracious personalities in that social community, and has spent the greater part of her life in this section of Indiana. She is the mother of a splendid household of children, presides with dignity over her home, and is widely known for her generosity and helpfulness.

She was born in Grant County, Indiana, September 10, 1859, but when a small girl was brought to Newton County by her parents Mr. and Mrs. George Broderick. That was some time in the fifties, and the Brodericks were among the pioneers of Iroquois Township, where they developed some of the land from a wilderness condition. After about five years her father removed to Arkansas, in which state he died. Her mother passed away not long afterwards, and Mrs. Huntington was left a child and was reared and brought up in the home of Mr. Deardurff at East Park in Benton County, Indiana.

She gained her education in the local schools and remained in the Deardurff home until June 30, 1880, when she married Mr.



Franklin Pierre Huntington. Into their home have come the following children: Abner P., Earnest F., Henry J., Chauncey A., Martha L., Edwin B., Florence L., Adam L., and Iva L. The younger of these children are still attending school, and all of them have been given the best possible advantages both at home and in institutions of learning. Earnest F. graduated from the Danville Normal School, and Abner P. took the scientific and classical course in Valparaiso University.

After the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Huntington in Benton County, Indiana, they lived on a farm there twenty-two years, Mr. Huntington having bought 320 acres north of Earl Park. From Earl Park they moved to Gilbow Township and purchased 400 acres of land and resided there four years. In 1906 they came to Jackson Township and they now have 518 acres of land, 318 acres in Jasper and Newton counties and 200 acres in Michigan. They have a beautiful home and it is the abode of hospitality and good cheer. Mrs. Huntington is a member of the Presbyterian Church as are also some of her children, and she is a member of the Mutual Service Club. Their home is known as "Pleasant View."

KING J. CHAMBERLAIN of Jackson Township has surrounded himself with all the evidences of prosperity and enterprise as a farmer and stockman. He is the owner of 346 acres of land, all of it under improvement, and has for years been a successful raiser and breeder of Hereford cattle and keeps about thirty head of those fine animals. He also keeps other stock, and he is one of the individual shippers to the markets from this county.

Mr. Chamberlain was born April 25, 1867, in Will County, Illinois, a son of William and Jane (Shutlar) Chamberlain. His father, who was born in England, came to America sixty-seven years ago. He had saved money to come to the United States, as had also a young friend of his, and in company with a third young man, they pooled their money and started on their journey. On arriving at New Buffalo they had but 25 cents altogether, and to add to their troubles they were shipwrecked off the coast of Ireland and there delayed one month and four days. Locating in Kendall County, Illinois, William Chamberlain was a farmer there, spending the first eight years as a farm laborer. He rented land, and afterwards bought a farm of eighty acres in Will County, on which he lived until his removal to Newton County twenty-nine years ago. He died in Newton County in 1902. He was a very successful farmer, and at the time of his death owned 300 acres of well improved Newton County soil. His revenues came from the raising of grain and he also established a nucleus of a herd of Hereford cattle, and did much to popularize that stock in this county. His wife died one year after his death. The father was a Presbyterian until he removed to Indiana, and afterwards he and



his wife were active members of the Methodist Church. Politically he was a republican.

King J. Chamberlain was one of two children. He grew up on a farm, learned the business of farming under his father, and after his father's death took the active management of the home place. On May 27, 1891, he married Miss Emma Grish and they are the parents of the following children: Jennie L., Jessie L., John W., Percy L., Henrietta, Susie and Ruby. Jennie graduated from high school in 1912 and Jessie from the high school at Brook in 1913. The family are members of the United Brethren Church at Brook, Indiana. Their homestead is known as the Maple Brook Stock Farm.

LEWIS KENOYER. Success consists in a steady betterment of one's material conditions and an increase of one's ability to render service to others. Measured by this standard, one of the exceptionally successful men of Newton County is Lewis Kenoyer, proprietor of a very large stock and grain farm in Jefferson Township and a sturdy, upright and vigorous citizen who has never failed to perform his duty in all the varied relations of his career.

That his family was among the very first settlers of this section of Indiana is indicated by the fact that Mr. Kenoyer was born in Newton County January 4, 1850. His parents were Reuben and Sarah Ann (Timmons) Kenoyer. His father, a native of Pennsylvania, came West, in the early '40s and was one of the first to locate in the country north of Kentland in Jefferson Township. He had just begun to prosper as a farmer there when death took him away at the age of twenty-seven. He left a family of three children, all of whom are still living. Reuben Kenoyer was not only a farmer but also a minister of the Christian or Campbellite Church. He was exceedingly devout and pious and a man of most upright principles and character.

Lewis Kenoyer grew up in Newton County, had the advantages of some of the pioneer schools, and has found ample employment for his energies in farming. He now owns 588 acres of land, and his specialty as a stockman is hogs and cattle. His farm is thoroughly equipped with all appliances and machinery necessary for systematic and efficient management. The home is in the extreme northwest corner of Jefferson Township.

Mr. Kenoyer has never neglected the public welfare even at the expense of some personal inconvenience. For several years he served as township supervisor, and in politics is an active republican.

He has been twice married. His first wife was Melissa West, and the two children of that marriage are Frank R. and Frederick. Their mother died three years after her marriage, and Mr. Kenoyer married for his present wife Miss Alissa Webber, who was born in Miami County, Indiana, October 10, 1864, the second of the seven children, three sons and four daughters, of George R. and Amanda





Jane (Long) Webber. Five of these children are living and reside in Indiana. Mr. Webber, the father, was a native of Pennsylvania, received his educational training in its schools and became a brick and stone mason. He served as a valiant soldier during the Civil war, and he now reside in Morocco. Mrs. Webber was born in Kosciusko County, Indiana. Her death occurred in about the year 1911, and she lies buried in Morocco. Into the home of Mr. and Mrs. Kenoyer have been born six children: Cleo, Delbert, Vernissa, Otha, Dorothy and Doris, the last two being twins. Cleo is the wife of Merble Chapman, and their home is in Morocco. Their two children are Estil Otho and Lewis Monroe. The son Delbert is a graduate with the class of 1910 of the Kentland High School. He married Miss Maude Cross, and is engaged in farming. Otha graduated from the grades and will enter the high school at Kentland. Mr. Kenoyer has taken special pains with the rearing and training of his children, and has given them all such education as they require for life's purposes. Mr. and Mrs. Kenoyer and their children are members of the United Brethren Church, known as Mount Zion Church. The homestead of Mr. and Mrs. Kenoyer is known as Pleasant View Stock Farm.

NEELY WILSON. The Wilson family has been one of special prominence in Brook and other sections of Newton County for many years. In fact a large part of the present City of Brook was originally owned as farm land by the Wilson family. Mr. Neely Wilson has made a successful record not only as a farmer but as a business man, and is now in the real estate and insurance business at Brook.

He was born October 15, 1868, in Kosciusko County, Indiana, a son of Samuel and Marilla (Neely) Wilson. His father, who was a native of Ohio, came to Indiana and lived in Kosciusko County several years, and then in 1879 brought his family, consisting of his wife and nine children, to Newton County. In this county he bought a farm of 160 acres in Iroquois Township and also 40 acres within the present corporation limits of Brook. Thereafter he made his home at Brook and lived in a house occupying the site of the present postoffice. He was born in 1826 and died in 1893, while his wife was born in 1838 and died in 1911. Samuel Wilson was a farmer most of his life, but from the time he came to Brook was very closely identified with its growth and upbuilding. He laid out and platted into streets the northern part of the present city, and did a great deal to keep up the standards of improvement in his part of the town as well as liberally supporting everything that would make Brook a comfortable home town. He was an active republican and a member of the Masonic order.

Neely Wilson is one of ten children, all of whom are still living. The sixth in order of birth, he grew up partly on his father's farm and partly in the home of his parents at Brook, and received his



education in the local schools. On June 10, 1899, at Brook he married Miss Cora Soul of Kankakee, Illinois. She died in 1901. Several years later he married Miss Elizabeth Gonyan of Goodland, Indiana. The two children of Mr. and Mrs. Wilson are La Verne and Florence Josephine. La Verne Wilson finished the public schools and spent three years in the Brook High School. He then took the full business course at the La Fayette Business College, La Fayette, Indiana, and is now associated with his father in business. Mr. Wilson is affiliated with the Knights of Pythias of Brook, Indiana, Castle Hall No. 277. Politically he is a republican. As a young man he started his career as a farmer, and followed that occupation successfully until he moved to Brook in 1904 and has since been one of the reliable men in that community handling real estate, fire insurance and farm loans.

LAWRENCE E. LYONS, a son of John B. Lyons, whose record as one of the foremost business men and citizens of Newton County is given on other pages, has proved himself worthy of the name which he bears and for many years has been a successful farmer and business man of this county.

He was born February 7, 1869, on a farm near Brook, was reared in a home of substantial comforts, acquired a good education, and for a number of years turned his attention to farming. After the death of Mr. Haynes, who had been manager of Brook Terra Cotta Manufacturing Company, Lawrence E. Lyons succeeded to that office, and has given his chief attention ever since to the making of this one of the prominent industries of Newton County. The company manufactures all kinds of Terra Cotta tiling and brick, and as the product is of the highest class it finds a ready market all over the country.

On December 9, 1903, Mr. Lyons was married in Bloomington, Monroe County, Indiana, to Miss Katherine Robertson, who was born in Monroe County, Indiana, November 23, 1877, a daughter of James and Rachel (Prather) Robertson, both of whom are now deceased. Of their children three sons and two daughters are yet living. Mrs. Lyons is a member of the Christian Church in Brook, and is a member of many of the religious and social organizations of her home town. Mr. and Mrs. Lyons have one child, Lawrence, Jr., who was born October 14, 1906, and he is in the fourth grade of the public schools of Brook.

Mr. Lyons has served four years as a member of the Brook School Board, is a member of the Republican State Central Committee, Tenth District, and is affiliated with Brook Lodge No. 670, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, with Castle Hall 277, Knights of Pythias, at Brook, Indiana, and the Columbia Club of Indianapolis. He is public spirited as is his honored father, and has always been found ready to do his part in advancing the welfare of his home village and county.



SAMUEL G. KINDIG. A student of progressive methods in agriculture would find abundance of illustrative material in Jefferson Township of Newton County. Some of the finest farms in Northwestern Indiana are to be found in that locality, and that also means that some of the ablest exponents of the art of agriculture also are to be found there.

One of these men who have been specially successful in transmitting the resources of the soil into material benefit for mankind is Samuel G. Kindig. Mr. Kindig is a practical farmer of wide and successful experience. He knows stock and stock farming equally well.

His home has been in Newton County for more than a quarter of a century. He was born February 6, 1866, in Adams County, Pennsylvania, a son of John and Susan (Basehoar) Kindig. His father died in Adams County, Pennsylvania, twenty-two years ago and his mother passed away in 1878.

Tenth in a family of thirteen children, five of whom are still living, Samuel G. Kindig grew up in his native state, and had such education as the common schools could supply. On going west he first located in Illinois, remained there a year, and in 1889 arrived in Jefferson Township of Newton County. For the next three years he worked as a farm laborer at wages of \$16 a month. He showed industry and great capacity for the tasks assigned him and even at that time was recognized as a coming man.

On November 24, 1891, he married Kate L. (Wildasin) who was born in Miami County, Indiana, October 10, 1873, the youngest of the eleven children born to Emanuel and Maria (Unger) Wildasin. Mr. Wildasin, the father, was a native of Maryland but was reared in Pennsylvania, and he became a tiller of the soil. In an early day he came to Newton County, and the farm where Mr. and Mrs. Kindig now reside was his farm. He was allied with the democratic party and strong in the advocacy of its principles, was at one time township assessor, and both he and his wife were members of the Reformed Church. His death occurred in 1904. Mrs. Wildasin was born on the state line separating Pennsylvania and Maryland. She was a kind and affectionate wife and mother and a devoted Christian. Both she and her husband lie buried in Kentland cemetery, where a monument marks their resting place. They were among the early settlers of Newton County. Mrs. Kindig was well educated in the local schools, and since her marriage has given very capable superintendence to her home and the careful training of her children. These children, seven in number, are named as follows: Earl R., born June 3, 1893, received a good common school education, is a practical farmer and resides with his parents. Curtis B., born September 6, 1896, graduated from the common schools with the class of 1911 and from the Kentland High School in 1915, and then entered Purdue University. John E., born December 23, 1898, received his diploma from the common schools in



1915. Gladys V., born June 11, 1903, is in the eighth grade. Samuel C., born July 1, 1907, is in the fourth grade. Helen K., born May 22, 1910; and George D., born December 15, 1913.

A number of years ago Mr. Kindig bought eighty acres in Jefferson Township, and he still owns that as part of the possessions devoted to his enterprise as a farmer and stockman. Mrs. Kindig inherited the 160-acre farm where the family now reside. Eleven years ago they put up a residence which is one of the most beautiful and convenient in that section of the county. It is not only a home with all that word implies, but is also a center of industry as the large barn, outbuildings for stock and equipment, and the various facilities indicate. As a stock raiser Mr. Kindig has been especially fortunate and successful in the breeding and raising of hogs, and is undoubtedly one of the leaders in that line in Newton County. He has a number of farm horses and keeps a herd of Red Durham cattle. In politics he is a republican, and for the past two years has served as a member of the county council.

MRS. D. J. CRAWN of Jefferson Township represents some of the old and substantial families of Newton County. This is a name that has always stood for honor and has commanded high respect in this section of Indiana.

Her husband, the late Daniel J. Crown, who died in 1913, gave his years most successfully to the tilling of the soil in this county. He was a son of Martin Crown, who was one of the very early settlers of Newton County, having come from Darke County, Ohio, to this section of Indiana as early as 1843. He helped clear up a part of the wilderness in Jefferson Township, and at the time of his death owned 300 acres of land. Martin Crown and wife had a family of six children: Mary E., Francis M., Daniel J., William David, Charles E. The daughter Mary, died October 8, 1855. Francis M. passed away October 6, 1876, while Charles E. died December 15, 1872.

The late Daniel J. Crown was married in 1884 to Miss Phebe Laffoon of Newton County. After his marriage he settled on a farm in section 8 of Jefferson Township, and was actively identified with its management until his death nearly thirty years later. Mrs. Crown still occupies that old homestead, and is a devout member of the United Brethren Church. Her husband was a democrat in politics and always enjoyed the confidence of his fellow citizens in Jefferson Township.

Mrs. Crown's father was a loyal soldier of the Union during the Civil war, serving two years in an Indiana regiment. Apart from his military service he spent his career as a farmer, and for many years lived near Brook. He was a member of the Grand Army Post in that place.

Mrs. Crown is the mother of three children: Tunis, Effie and Phebe. Effie completed the eighth grade of school and was a





teacher of music. She wedded Irvine Groscoft, an agriculturist, and has one little daughter, Laura Ellen Tunis, who resides with her mother. Mr. Groscoft is a democrat and a member of the Modern Woodmen of America. Thelie completed the eighth grade of the public schools. She is a member of the Christian Church.

**WILLIAM D. LITTLEJOHN.** Since assuming control as manager of his present farm in Jefferson Township, William D. Littlejohn has secured excellent financial results and has evidenced a broad knowledge of the vocations of farming and stock raising. Many years of practical experience contribute to his agricultural equipment, and his entire career has been devoted to the cultivation of the soil.

He represents one of the very early names associated with the pioneer settlement of Jefferson Township. Mr. Littlejohn was born May 27, 1876, in Newton County, a son of David and Lavina (Wyatt) Littlejohn. His father was born in Hamilton County, Ohio, and was brought to Newton County when a young man and has lived there ever since. Grandfather William Littlejohn was in his time one of the foremost farmers and stockraisers of Newton County. At the time of his death he left an estate of 1,050 acres. He passed away in 1858, honored and respected, and universally admired not only for his business success but for the qualities of his character. He was among the first to cultivate the soil in Jefferson Township. He was a devout Christian and nearly all his life was a member of the Methodist Church. Politically he was a strong republican. His widow survived him many years and passed away December 16, 1912.

William D. Littlejohn grew up in Jefferson Township, attended the common schools there, and his early experience well equipped him for the career of farming which he has since followed. In his twentieth year he was a farm hand and after that he rented land for some years.

On January 7, 1900, he married Miss Mary Swanson. Two children have been born to their union: Helene Ferne, the elder daughter, received her diploma from the common schools in the class of 1916 and will take a high school course at Kentland. She has taken instruction in music, and is a member of Church Choral Society of the Christian Church, of Kentland. The younger daughter, Gussie Vera, has completed the eighth grade and also taken instruction in music. She too is a member of the Choral Society of the Christian Church. Mrs. Littlejohn, who has proved a most excellent helpmate to her husband and has been devoted to the rearing of her children, is a daughter of Swedish parents who were early settlers in Jefferson Township. Her father died there March 18, 1916, while her mother is living in Kentland, Indiana. Fraternally Mr. Littlejohn is a Knight of Pythias, being affiliated with Kentland Lodge No. 276, and he also belongs to the Kentland Lodge of



Masons. In politics he is a republican. Mr. and Mrs. Littlejohn are members of the Christian Church.

WILLIAM O. THOMPSON. Farming is now both a practical and scientific business and many of the most successful farmers are pursuing it according to the intensive methods, making one acre grow what the old fashioned husbandmen produced on two or three acres. A conspicuous illustration of this method is found in the enterprise of William O. Thompson in Washington Township in Newton County. Mr. Thompson has spent the best years of his life in Newton County, and since gaining a foothold has made rapid progress in the accumulation of material prosperity.

He was born August 7, 1859, in Warren County, Indiana, a son of Abel and Susanna (McFarland) Thompson. His paternal ancestry were Scotch and the family have lived in America for several generations. Abel Thompson was born in Warren County, Indiana, where the grandfather located on coming from Ohio. In 1859, the year William O. Thompson was born, the family removed to Newton County, Indiana, and planted a home here when there was a very sparse population. Abel Thompson established a farm in Washington Township, living there till his death in 1878. In Warren County he had been engaged in the sawmill business for seven years, but in Newton County he gave his entire time and attention to farming. He died in 1878. He was not only a general stockraiser but also quite prominent in the stock business, giving his attention chiefly to cattle and hogs. He has the distinction of being the first man in Newton County to introduce high grade Poland-China hogs. He brought the nucleus of his stock from Warren County. Abel Thompson married for his first wife Miss Matilda McGee, who died, and both her children are now deceased. He afterwards married Miss Susanna McFarland, and there were five children of that marriage. Of these William O. and a sister, Miss Elizabeth Edmonson of Colorado, survive. Abel Thompson was a man of influence in his day and a strict upholder of religious and moral progress in his community. He was a class leader and superintendent of Sunday school for years in the United Brethren Church, and was always prompt in attending the Sunday school and a liberal contributor to the support of his church in Washington Township. He was also a republican, and he filled the office of advisory board member in Washington Township.

William O. Thompson grew up on his father's farm in Washington Township, and on September 30, 1880, he was married there to Miss Cynthia J. Best. Her father, John B. Best, was born in Springfield, Ohio, in 1825, and he afterwards moved to Tippecanoe County, Indiana, and from there went to White County, where two of the children were born, and in 1860 to Newton County, where the other two children were born. John Best was a blacksmith by trade, and kept a shop in Brooksboro, Indiana. In Newton County



he bought eighty acres in Washington Township, and lived there until his death, October 21, 1895. He was a very active member and deacon in the Baptist Church, was a democrat, and for one term held the office of township trustee. Fraternally he was identified with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. He was especially strong in supporting the temperance cause, and was almost a pioneer in that movement. He was past seventy years of age when he died on October 21, 1895. Mrs. Thompson's mother, whose maiden name was Moffett, belonged to a family of early settlers in Newton County. Mrs. Thompson was one of a family of four children, only three of whom are now living and her brother, Frank D. Bert, is a resident of Franklin, Indiana. He formerly was an agriculturist, but is now retired. Mary E. is the widow of Edwin Johnson, of Morocco, Indiana, and a member of the Christian Church. Mrs. Thompson is a member of the Beaver City Baptist Church and she is superintendent of the Sunday School. She was educated in common schools and the first graded school in Morocco, and was a teacher  $2\frac{1}{2}$  years in Newton County. Mr. Thompson was educated in the common schools and a seminary of Green Hill, Warren County, Indiana, and he taught in Newton County. He is a prohibitionist and takes high ground on the subject of temperance. Mr. and Mrs. Thompson have had five children, all sons, and four are living: Walter S., after one year in the Goodland High School, entered Franklin College and spent three years in the Scientific Course, and training in telegraphy. He is a naturalist by nature, and he resides with his parents. William H. resides in DeWitt, Michigan. He has been a minister of the Baptist Church for six years, and is now preaching at Lansing, Michigan. He was educated in the common schools and high school of Goodland and had a fine course at Franklin College, and took a post graduate course at that institution. He then pursued a regular theological course at Rochester College, Rochester, New York. He married Miss Viola Cauldwell and they have two children, Mary and Kathryn. He is a prohibitionist. Albert F., after a common and high school training, spent four years at Franklin College. He is engaged in farming in Howard County, Indiana. He married, first, Miss Belle Parks, and they had one child, William Parks. His wife died and he wedded Mrs. Minnie (Potthoff) Lybrook, who had two children by her first husband. Albert F. Thompson is a prohibitionist and a deacon in the Baptist Church. James B. received a common and high school training and graduated from Franklin College in 1909. He married Miss Carrie Pierce and resides in Jasper County, where he is engaged in farming. He is a member of the Baptist Church and his wife of the Christian Church. The estate of Mr. and Mrs. Thompson is known as Maple Row Farm.

ALGIE J. LAW is one of the prominent bankers of Newton County, being cashier of the Citizens State Bank of Morocco. Mr.



Law has been identified with this county practically all his life, and for many years was a progressive farmer until he moved into Morocco and took the responsibilities of cashier.

Born May 18, 1870, in Newton County, he is a son of Joseph and Catherine (Kessler) Law. In the maternal line he has a specially interesting ancestral record. His mother was a daughter of David Kessler. His great-great-grandfather Law came from England to fight under King George III against the colonies in their struggle for independence. On reaching America he changed his mind and allied himself with the Continental army, fighting under Washington and proving a gallant and brave soldier.

Joseph Law, father of the Morocco banker, was born in Virginia and at the age of twenty-five came West and located in Washington Township of Newton County. He was one of the early settlers there and was a very successful farmer and stock raiser. His estate comprised 1,600 acres in Washington Township, and he lived on that homestead until his death. By his marriage to Miss Catherine Kessler he had eight children, five of whom are still living, Mr. Algie J. Law being the sixth in order of birth. Joseph Law at one time owned 1,600 acres of land in Washington Township. He was also prominent in civil affairs, being twice elected trustee of the township and refusing a third term. He was a sincere Christian, was an active member of the Baptist Church and for more than twelve years superintendent of its Sunday School. Politically he was a democrat and his secret society was the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, of Iroquois, Illinois.

It was on his father's farm that Algie J. Law spent the first twenty years of his life. He attended the common schools of his home township, and also spent a year in Franklin College. In Beaver Township, January 23, 1890, he married Miss Maude Shafer. Mr. and Mrs. Law have one daughter, Ethel C., who graduated from the Morocco High School, took a course in a training school at Chicago, also attended Franklin College a year.

After his marriage Mr. Law rented a farm for one year and then bought eighty acres in section 18 of Washington Township. He was successfully identified with its management for a quarter of a century, and finally retired and moved to Morocco to accept his present post of cashier of the Citizens State Bank.

Politically Mr. Law is a democrat and was elected to fill the post of trustee of Washington Township one term, and in the fall of 1897 was elected a member of the state senate to fill out an unexpired term. While in the state capital he gave an excellent account of himself as a legislator, and has always tried to perform his duties to the public as well as those responsibilities which he owes to his family and his special line of business. He has filled the various chairs in the Knights of Pythias Lodge Castle Hall No. 492, and is also a member of the Modern Woodmen of America,





all of Morocco, Indiana. His church home is the Baptist denomination.

ABRAHAM W. BEBOUT. Well upwards of ninety years of age, Abraham W. Bebout has spent all his years from early manhood in Newton and Jasper counties. His has been a career notable not only for the length of its years but for the value and spirit of the service rendered his community. As a carpenter he followed his trade diligently for many years and it is said that he has probably erected more buildings in Newton County particularly in and around Morocco, than any other man.

His birth occurred in Wayne County, Ohio, November 15, 1827. His parents were Abraham and Elizabeth (Vankine) Bebout. His father was a native of Pennsylvania and his mother of New Jersey. In the early days his father came to Crawford County, Ohio, and after a short time moved to Wayne County, and after three years there went to Kentucky, spending twenty-two years in Crittenden County. He died at Marietta, Ohio, while on his way to visit a relative in Pennsylvania. By trade he was a millwright, and followed that occupation both in Ohio and Kentucky. He was also a minister of the Baptist Church and gave twenty years to the cause of the Master.

In the family were nine children, and the venerable Abraham W. Bebout of Morocco is now the only one living. While the family lived in Western Kentucky the children had to walk three miles to attend school, and Mr. Bebout's early advantages were somewhat limited so far as books were concerned. After leaving home at the age of twenty-one, he visited some of his people in Crawford County, Ohio, and then came to Newton County, or what was then Jasper County, since Newton County had not yet been formed as a separate civil government. That was upwards of seventy years ago, and altogether Mr. Bebout spent about sixty years in the active work of the carpenter's trade. During his life here he has witnessed the entire development of this section of Northwestern Indiana from wilderness conditions to a time when nearly all the land is cleared, drained and under perfect cultivation, and when almost numberless improvements and advantages are found that were hardly dreamed of when he became a resident. A number of years ago Mr. Bebout retired from active business and is now enjoying comfort and leisure, in good health and in the exercise of all his mental faculties.

On November 5, 1854, in Morocco he married Miss Nancy Pulver. Eight children were born to their union and the six now living are Ella E., David Henry, Mary Elizabeth, Otto, Anna May and Bert.

Since early youth Mr. Bebout has been an active member of the Methodist Church and as a local preacher has officiated in that capacity in many pulpits and has been a leader in the moral and



religious welfare of his community. He is also identified with the Masonic order and politically is a republican, having cast his first vote at the beginning of that party's existence.

**JOHN KENNEDY.** A life that was significant of sturdy character, upright manhood, long continued industry, and lasting esteem from family, friends and neighbors in Newton County, was that lived by the late John Kennedy. He had spent fully sixty years of his life in Newton County and both as a citizen and business man his record deserves to be read by the people who knew him in his youth and in his later years.

He was born in Montgomery County, Indiana, March 27, 1847. A little more than sixty-eight years later his death occurred at his home in Morocco April 29, 1913. His parents David and Susan (Goodman) Kennedy moved from Montgomery County to Newton County in 1851, becoming pioneers on a farm four miles east of Morocco. It was there that John Kennedy spent his early years, growing up to a life of industry, substantial character, and gaining such instruction as the local schools afforded.

It was only a deserved expression of public esteem which found record in some editorials following his death, appearing in the Morocco Enterprise. What was said at the time should be given here as a permanent memorial to his life of industry and character:

"Mr. Kennedy was a farmer and stock raiser who combined practical ideas with sound business judgment and by industry he worked his own success. At the time of his death he was the owner of over 1,600 acres of land. Early in his career as farmer on the unimproved and unpromising prairie lands of this county he became discouraged, and for two weeks traveled the country attempting to sell his then small farm of eighty acres at \$35 an acre, but found no buyer. Returning home he resolved that if he could not sell he would take the opposite course and buy. So, acre by acre, he added to his possessions and these acres grew into a handsome fortune. He was a man who gave his whole thought and energy to his business, and even to a few days before his death directed his affairs with a keen mind.

"Mr. Kennedy possessed a fine personality and attracted friends by his open hospitality, genial nature and frank honesty. He prized the friendship of his neighbors and it was one of the pleasures of his life to meet with them and talk of events of common interest. He possessed fine memory and kept in close touch with the world about him.

"As a man of affairs Mr. Kennedy retained to the fullest extent the confidence of all. His sterling integrity and unyielding honesty commanded recognition and his generosity and unselfish interest in the welfare of his neighbor and the community in which he lived made him an important factor in the county's history. He never sought public honor, but served one term as county commissioner.



"In the home Mr. Kennedy was a model husband and gave to his family the love, care and counsel that best served their welfare. He was indulgent to his children and they have as a sweet memory the rich heritage of a noble father."

On April 19, 1874, Mr. Kennedy married Miss Sarah Ann English, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Job English, a prominent pioneer family of Newton County elsewhere referred to in this publication. Mrs. Kennedy, who is still living in her home at Morocco, has spent nearly all her life in Newton County. Her father Job English, was born in Cuyahoga County, Ohio, and came to Tippecanoe County, Indiana, with his parents. In 1854 the English family removed to Newton County locating 2½ miles west of Morocco.

At the time of their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Kennedy established their home on a farm in Jackson Township two miles south of the old Kennedy homestead. There they continued to reside until 1905, when they moved on the ranch, seven miles northeast of Morocco, but in 1907 Mr. Kennedy retired from active business and moved with his family to Morocco, where he built for their comfort and convenience the most commodious residence in the town erected in 1907.

To the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. John Kennedy were born ten children. One son died in infancy and Emmet died in early life. Surviving their honored father were eight children: Mrs. Jennie Grace Hunter, Mrs. Ruby Hunter, Kinder, Condy Earl, Samuel Miner, Nellie Gay, Bertha Tennis and Frieda Kennedy. Mr. John Kennedy was one of nine children, and the only survivor is his brother Joseph Kennedy of Morocco.

CHARLES W. BELL has lived a career that entitled him to a place of honor and respect among the citizens of Newton County, and on his home farm in Beaver Township he enjoys all those comforts and conveniences which it is the ambition of every energetic farmer to attain.

A native of Newton County, he was born February 10, 1859, a son of John and Betsy E. (Armstrong) Bell. His father was a native of Virginia and his mother of Ohio. John Bell in early life lived for several years on a farm in Warren County, Indiana, then removed to Iroquois County, Illinois, and in that locality he married and from that state he enlisted in 1861 for service in the Union army. He was a loyal soldier and followed the flag over many southern battlefields for three years. After his honorable discharge he returned to Illinois, resumed his business as a farmer, and from that state came to Newton County. He bought a farm in Beaver Township and was successfully identified with its management until his death. He was in every sense an upright and conscientious Christian, an active member of the Baptist Church, and was a strong and steadfast republican in his citizenship.



In a family of nine children, five of whom are still living, Charles W. Bell was the fifth in age. He was reared on his father's farm, and after reaching manhood found in farming the most congenial and profitable pursuit.

October 7, 1889, Mr. Bell wedded Miss Magnolia Horton, the daughter of Pear and Lucinda (Padgett) Horton. His father was a native of South Carolina and came to Newton County about 1875, locating on a farm about five miles northwest of Kentland. Mrs. Bell was born in DuBois County, Indiana, April 2, 1862, and she was a little maiden when she first saw Newton County and this has been her home most of the years since. Mr. Bell is an ardent republican and the church of their choice is the Baptist.

**ROSS LUCAS.** Most of his life Ross Lucas has spent in Newton County and in and around the City of Morocco. His has been an active and prosperous career, whether as a farmer, business man or public spirited citizen. He began life dependent upon his own resources and had to swim against the current of circumstances for a number of years. He is now well established in business at Morocco, and has an honorable record in all his relations with the community.

He was born May 24, 1877, in Tippecanoe County, Indiana, a son of David T. and Sophia (Wells) Lucas. His father, who traces his ancestry back to Ireland, was born in Tippecanoe County and is now seventy-nine years of age, having spent his active career as a farmer and carpenter. The mother is still living at the age of sixty-nine.

The younger of two children, Ross Lucas, secured a common school education, and at the age of sixteen took his place as a laborer on the farm. In that way he spent six years, duly acquiring experience and accumulating a small capital for a future career.

On December 25, 1900, Mr. Lucas married Miss Laura E. Peterson, whose father was a native of Denmark and his mother a native of Sweden. Her father came to America and located in Brookston, Indiana, and in 1861 went as a pioneer to Newton County, where he bought land in Washington Township. His was a life of hard work, thrift and honorable integrity and it bore large fruit. At one time he owned about 1,400 acres of land, was still identified with its management at the time of his death in 1903.

After his marriage Mr. Lucas engaged in farming in Washington Township for several years, but on January 4, 1912, removed to Morocco. For one year he was in the garage business, then began handling automobiles as sales agent. He still owns a choice farm of 380 acres in Washington Township, and has numerous business interests in this county and elsewhere. He owns the electric light plant at Uniontown, Kentucky.

Politically Mr. Lucas is an active republican and he and his family worship in the Methodist Episcopal Church. Of the four





children born to Mr. and Mrs. Lucas the only one now living is Willard, who was born March 31, 1904.

**RILEY C. HARWOOD.** Few of the farmers of Newton County have made a better showing from a similar beginning than Riley C. Harwood of Beaver Township. He owns and occupies a fine farm of 110 acres in that township, with his postoffice and market town at Morocco. He began life with practically no capital, and has since acquired prosperity and a place of influence in his community.

His birth occurred in New York State November 1, 1852, and he is a son of Barton and Irene (Morse) Harwood. His paternal ancestors came from England. Barton Harwood came west in 1853 and settled in La Salle County, Illinois. He was a cooper by trade, having learned that occupation in New York State but did not follow it after coming west. In La Salle County he was an active farmer, and from there in 1870 he moved to Newton County, Indiana, and spend the rest of his days on a rented farm in Beaver Township. His death occurred in the spring of 1880. He was a good citizen and a man whose life accounted for much in any community where he lived. He was a republican and a member of the United Brethren Church. His wife died in 1889.

Of the ten children of his parents, Riley C. Harwood is the only one now living. He grew up in La Salle County, Illinois, and has always followed the occupation to which he was reared. He worked hard as a young man, and by thrift and good management was able to make his first investment in a tract of forty acres. With growing prosperity he has increased his farming land and added constantly to its value, and at the same time has prospered and lived well.

On March 22, 1874, in Beaver Township Mr. Harwood married Miss Sarah Wink. Her people formerly lived in Henry County, Indiana. After nine years of married life Mrs. Harwood passed away July 21, 1883. There were three children, John E., a farmer of Beaver Township, and Irma and Frank, who are deceased. After the death of his first wife Mr. Harwood was married in Beaver Township to Mrs. Carrie (Hicks) Hemphill. Seven children were born to their marriage, and the five now living are: Ralph, born April 1, 1888; James, born August 30, 1890; Ethel, born March 3, 1892; Vannes, born February 2, 1895; and Byron, born November 8, 1903. The church of the family is the Baptist, of Beaver City, Indiana.

**EDGAR L. MARTIN.** Prominently known in Newton County as a farmer and representative of an old time family, Edgar L. Martin since leaving his farm in Washington Township has been an active merchant of Morocco.

When the Martin family came to this section of Indiana three



quarters of a century ago the entire country was a wilderness, and very few homes as yet had sprung up to mark the progress of civilization. Egdar L. Martin was born in Newton County, April 14, 1860, and even during his boyhood the face of the country presented a vastly different aspect from what it does now. His parents were Joseph C. and Charlotte (Camlin) Martin, the former a native of Kentucky. His father lived for a time in Madison, Indiana, but in 1840 came to Newton County and located in Washington Township. He pre-empted eighty acres of land, and was identified with its cultivation and development until 1893, when he sold out and moved to Kansas. He died in Crawford County, Kansas. He was a democrat, a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church and a sincere Christian and an upright citizen.

The youngest in a family of six children, one daughter being now deceased, Edgar L. Martin grew up in Newton County and after his schooling and other early experiences was married in Washington Township to Miss Ida Padgett, a daughter of John and Mary (Bower) Padgett. Mr. and Mrs. Martin have three sons: Charles D., John Owen and Harold O. Charles D., after a common school training, studied at Valparaiso University and was a teacher in Newton County seven years. He married Miss Emma Purkey. He is a democrat and a Mason. John Owen graduated from the Morocco High School. He married Miss Pearl Yates, and they have one little son, Robert O. John O. Martin is a farmer, a democrat and a member of Knights of Pythias fraternity. Harold O. is a graduate of Morocco High School and he is a freshman in Purdue University.

After his marriage Mr. Martin bought a farm in Washington Township, containing 160 acres, and he afterwards acquired his father's old homestead. He prospered by hard work and competent management of his affairs and was regarded as one of the most substantial agriculturists of Washington Township for twenty years. After leaving the farm Mr. Martin retired to Morocco, and here engaged in the hardware business under the firm name of Martin Bros.

Fraternally he is affiliated with the Knights of Pythias, and is a deacon in the Baptist Church of Morocco, Indiana. His home has been in Morocco since 1914.

DAVID A. PROTSMAN is one of the men who claim Jasper and Newton counties as their birthplace and the scene of their substantial activities in later life. Mr. Protsman has found in farming both a congenial and a profitable occupation. The management of well tilled fields, the care and superintendence of good stock, the task of winning a living and at the same time increasing and improving the value of his farm, and the duties of good citizenship, have occupied him here for many years, and he is one of the most substantial residents of Beaver Township in Newton County.



He was born in Jasper County May 23, 1808, a son of Daniel and Martha (Lakin) Protsman, the former a native of Maryland and the latter of Franklin County, Indiana. Daniel Protsman was brought to Dayton, Ohio, when a youth, and lived on a farm there for twelve years. He then removed to Porter County and later to Jasper County, Indiana, near Rensselaer, and was employed in operating a 150-acre farm for three years, following which he moved to Jackson Township in Newton County. There he also bought 100 acres and lived on it until his death in 1893. He was twice married. His second wife was Martha Lakin, whose first husband enlisted in the Civil war in 1861, and after two years died while still in the army. She married Daniel Protsman about the close of the war, and became the mother of three children.

D. A. Protsman grew up in Newton County, found his education in the local schools, and is now proprietor of 308 acres of choice farm land in Beaver Township. He has one of the most attractive homes in that section, and a part of his land is covered with a heavy growth of native timber. This wood has a special historical interest since it was the scene of one of the earlier Indian battles. Mr. Protsman has long been a student of local history, and is undoubtedly the best authority on the Indian history in this section of Indiana.

Mr. Protsman is a republican in politics, a member of the Christian Church, and is always ready to work for the advancement of any community enterprise.

He married Miss Margaret Spence on May 26, 1897, and four children—three sons and one daughter—were born to them, and all are living: Francis A., who is a practical farmer; Roscoe E., a graduate of the Morocco High School, enters Valparaiso University; John E., in the eighth grade of the public schools, and Margaret E., in fourth grade.

Mrs. Protsman is a native of Crete, Illinois, and was born June 23, 1870. She is a member of the Christian Church. Her parents, Francis and Elizabeth (Dowson) Spence, were both natives of Scotland. Mr. Spence is living at the age of eighty-six, and he is a cousin of the celebrated African explorer, David Livingston. Mrs. Spence died in Illinois in 1885. The estate of Mr. and Mrs. Protsman is known as "Turkey Foot Farm."

GEORGE THOMAS CLARK. For many years one of the highly respected and substantial residents of Newton County, and now living in Washington Township, George Thomas Clark has been principally identified with farming, and has not only provided well for his family, but is regarded as one of the men of influence in his community. His people were among the pioneers in this section of Indiana, and Mr. Clark himself has earned no little prestige to the name through his capable and honest career.

He was born September 13, 1862, in Johnson County, Indiana,



son of George W. and Eliza Sybert Clark. His father, who was born in the State of Kentucky, came to Northern Indiana about fifty years ago, locating four miles east of Morocco. He bought forty acres of land there, and during his active career was identified with farming, but is now living retired in Morocco.

It was in the home of his parents that George Thomas Clark spent the first twenty-one years of his life. He was reared to habits of industry and thrift and was given a substantial education in the local schools. On starting out for himself he bought 100 acres of land in section 36 of Beaver Township, and that was his home and the scene of his activities as an agriculturist for six years. He then removed to Washington Township, and has since bought 175 acres in sections 3 and 4 in Washington Township.

On March 4, 1896, Mr. Clark married Miss Charlotte Rolls, who has been his capable helpmate and a sharer in the joys and sorrows of their mutual companionship for twenty-one years. Mrs. Clark was born in Kankakee County, Illinois, February 6, 1878, the fifth of the seven children, three sons and four daughters, of Reuben and Elizabeth (Allen) Rolls. Five of the children are still living. Mr. Rolls was born near London, England, and came to the United States when about thirty years of age. Mr. and Mrs. Rolls came to Beaver Township of Newton County thirty-four years ago, and he bought eighty acres in section 27 of that township. He was a member of the "Hard Shell" Baptist Church, and he died on the 17th of December, 1912, at the age of seventy-five years, while his wife, who is also a Baptist, is living at the advanced age of eighty-one. The children born to Mr. and Mrs. Clark are: George R., Leonard S. and Clifford M. Mrs. Clark is an active worker in both the Sunday school and church of the Baptist denomination. Mr. Clark is a "true blue" republican.

**ROBERT B. KESSLER.** It is one of the old and prominent families of Newton County that Robert B. Kessler represents. He has spent his active career as a farmer, has an attractive and valuable homestead in Beaver Township, and his name stands for the best things in the community life of that locality.

The Kessler family was established in Newton County in pioneer days, and Robert B. Kessler was born in Beaver Township there December 23, 1864. His parents were John L. and Sarah (Goddard) Kessler. In their home Robert B. Kessler grew to manhood, gained his education in the local schools, and at the age of nineteen started out for himself.

For three years he farmed on the renting plan, and in that way gained confidence and a small capital which justified him in establishing a home of his own. He married Miss Lulu Kinney. Into their home have come six children: Carrie, May, Vivian, Donald, Dorothy and Gwendolyn.

After his marriage Mr. Kessler settled down to an active career





of farming which has brought him a substantial position and large material means. Since then he has acquired an estate of 239 acres, and on that farm he has erected one of the most attractive residences in Newton County. His home is  $1\frac{1}{4}$  miles west of Morocco.

While successful as a farmer, Mr. Kessler has not neglected the public welfare, and has manifested his public spirit in behalf of every movement for the upbuilding and progress of his community. He and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church at Morocco, and he is a staunch supporter of the prohibition cause, and takes high ground on the subject of temperance.

GEORGE H. HILLIS conducts one of the largest stock and grain farms in Newton County. He was formerly associated with a syndicate in the purchase and development of an immense tract of land in this county, and after that syndicate was dissolved Mr. Hillis took his share, which in itself amounted to almost a princely estate.

No greater service can be rendered mankind than the proper utilization of land, which is the basis of all wealth, as a source of those fruits which are required for the sustenance and welfare of the human race. While several generations of people have lived in Newton County, it is in comparatively recent years that the real forward movement of development and prosperity has begun, and in that movement Mr. Hillis has been one of the most prominent factors.

Besides his successful management of large property interests, he is also closely identified with the public welfare of his county, and is now filling with much credit the office of county commissioner. His home is near Fair Oaks in Colfax Township, but most of his farming property is located in Colfax Township. Besides his office of county commissioner he has filled other offices in his township, having been trustee for five years.

A native of Indiana, Mr. Hillis was born July 16, 1870, in Greencastle, a son of George B. and Elizabeth (Scobee) Hillis. His father was born in Putnam County, Indiana, was a carpenter and farmer, and spent all his active career in that county, where he died in 1898. He was a republican in politics, a Methodist, and a very liberal supporter of his own church and of all other worthy charitable enterprises. His home was noted for its hospitality, and he was a man of substantial character and integrity who enjoyed a long and useful life and the riches of community esteem. His six children are all still living.

George H. Hillis began his career as a farmer, having been reared on his father's place and gaining his education in the local schools. For ten years he was in the ice business at Greencastle. In 1901 he came to Newton County, and there became associated with several other well known men in the purchase of 2,680 acres in Colfax Township. The company was formed of the following individuals: A. B. and A. W. Tolin, John J. Totten, and Mr. Hillis.



After Mr. A. W. Tolin withdrew from the partnership the company was conducted under the name Hill-Totten Company. This was dissolved in 1912, and the large land estate was divided, Mr. Hillis and Mr. Totten each receiving 1,580 acres, and then they purchased 648 acres more in Lincoln Township. Taking that amount of land as his share, Mr. Hillis at once proceeded with its further development, and has added to his holdings by the purchase of other tracts until he is now one of the largest land holders in Newton County, and owns considerable property elsewhere. All this land in Newton County he uses for the growing of grain and the raising of stock, and he is one of the largest stock shippers of the country.

In 1898 in Kansas City, Missouri, Mr. Hillis married Miss Maggie C. Cooper, a daughter of George C. Cooper. Two children were born to their union, and the only one now living is Ross H., who was born May 29, 1912. Mr. and Mrs. Hillis have a fine rural home near Fair Oaks, and have surrounded themselves with all those comforts and conveniences which make country life attractive. Mr. Hillis is a stanch republican, and is affiliated with the Modern Woodmen of America.

**VALERIUS P. HOPE.** For more than thirty-five years Newton County has been honored and benefited by the presence within its borders of the Hope family. In the character of its individual members, the interests and well being of the community have been advanced, and in many ways their influences have affected for good the social and business affairs of the county.

With a life of industry to his credit, Valerius P. Hope has identified himself with both merchandising and farming in this county, and is one of the most widely known residents of Beaver Township. He was born in Van Wert County, Ohio, December 16, 1851, a son of William K. and Eve Elizabeth (Wert) Hope. His father was born in Virginia, and his mother was a native of Germany. William K. Hope spent his early life near the City of Richmond, Virginia, and left home at the age of eighteen and moved to Wheeling, then a part of old Virginia, now West Virginia. For several years he worked as a day laborer there, and then moved to Crawford County, Ohio, where he spent five years in farming, and from there to Van Wert County. In Van Wert County he acquired eighty acres of land from the Government and made it his home for twenty-eight years. In 1880 he moved to Newton County, Indiana, locating on a farm of forty acres for one year.

In the meantime Valerius P. Hope had grown to manhood. He received his early education in the public schools of Van Wert County, and after his marriage he took up his activities as a farmer on the old Smart homestead in Newton County. That farm had been purchased by himself. He afterwards lived on a farm of eighty acres north of Morocco, where most of his children were born, and he then went into the City of Morocco, where for eight



years he conducted a restaurant, and for two years was in the harness business. On giving up merchandising, Mr. Hope bought eighty acres of land  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles northeast of Morocco, and in that attractive locality he hopes to spend his last years. He has acquired an additional forty acres, making a total of 120 acres.

On September 30, 1877, Mr. Hope married Miss Marie A. Smart. Seven children were born to them and the five now living are Orval B., Otho Alfred, Lucinda E., Myron E. and Mary M.

Mr. and Mrs. Hope are active members of the Methodist Episcopal Church at Morocco, Indiana, and she is an enthusiastic worker and teacher in the Sunday-school, holding the enviable record of twenty-six years as a Sunday-school teacher. She is well educated and for nine terms was a teacher in the schools of Beaver Township. Mr. Hope is a citizen of great public spirit, and served one term as supervisor of Beaver Township and for three years was treasurer of the Morocco School Board. He is an ardent republican.

**HENRY TINCHER.** A resident of Newton County since early youth, no man is better known in this community or more genuinely esteemed than Henry Tinchler, now living retired in Morocco. He has been a successful farmer.

His birth occurred March 3, 1848, in Jennings County, Indiana, a son of Robert and Sarah (Justice) Tinchler. His father was born in Henry County, Indiana, and both parents are now deceased. Of their six children all are living but one, Robert Tinchler.

In 1861 he volunteered and became a member of Company C in the Thirty-seventh Indiana Volunteer Infantry. Soon after his enlistment he was afflicted with rheumatism and that prevented him from taking a very active part during his three years of service, and much of the time was spent in hospital.

The Tinchler family moved to Newton County in the very early days, when Henry Tinchler was eighteen years of age. He was educated in Jennings County, Indiana, received very limited educational advantages, and from the age of twelve years became dependent upon his own resources to advance him to fortune and a good name in the community. He was engaged in the shingle manufacturing business, to which he gave about fourteen years of his active life. He then bought ninety-three acres of land in Beaver Township and was prosperously identified with its management for thirty years until he removed to Morocco in 1913. In Morocco his son bought a beautiful residence and his father and mother have since lived there in comfort and with all the fruits of a well spent life.

On May 22, 1870, Mr. Tinchler married Miss Mary Graves. Their three children are Maggie May, Maud and Guy. Mr. Tinchler and wife are active members of the Christian Church at Antioch, and politically he is a republican and has accepted every possible opportunity to serve the community and promote its welfare.



SAMUEL BRIDGEMAN. About three quarters of a century ago, when Newton County was still in the wilderness, the first member of the Bridgeman family came to the region, and this is a name which has been very closely connected with all phases of development in this section from that year to the present, when Mr. Samuel Bridgeman represents the family and is proprietor of one of the splendid country estates in Beaver Township. As the older members of the family did their part in transforming the barren land into cultivated fields, so Mr. Bridgeman has continued this worthy work, and at the same time has exemplified the qualities of enterprise and good citizenship which are valuable assets to any community.

Mr. Bridgeman is one of the oldest native sons of Newton County, having been born there January 20, 1853. His parents were Samuel and Lavina (Murphey) Bridgeman. His father was a native of Pennsylvania. The paternal grandparents moved west in the '30s, locating first in Fountain County, Indiana, and after a few years grandfather Bridgeman came into the wilderness of Newton County, locating on land south of Morocco, where he spent the rest of his years. Samuel Bridgeman, Sr., was also a farmer, and owned and developed a good place west of Morocco. This Samuel Bridgeman and his four brothers came from Virginia to Logansport with their father, Michael Bridgeman. They soon began working on a Government road leading to Michigan City, and they chopped the trees and cleared the way for the road. They then moved to Hillsboro, Fountain County, where they cleared off timber land and obtained the use of the land for five years for clearing it. They then moved to Beaver Township, Newton County, where Michael Bridgeman took a claim in section 29. He came here in 1840 and stayed till 1851, when he moved to Oregon.

Samuel Bridgeman, Sr., took a claim in Beaver Township, west of Morocco. He made several trips to Chicago, taking the hogs they had butchered. They would drive three yoke of oxen, and the meat would sell for about 2 cents a pound. The trip consumed about a week.

Samuel Bridgeman, Jr., was the sixth in a family of nine children. While he was a boy growing up in Newton County there were very few public schools, but he wisely improved his opportunities, and came to mature age with a substantial education and with a training that has stood him in good stead during all subsequent years. When he was seventeen years of age he started out to make his own way in the world. Five years he worked as a laborer. Thus he began on the bottom round of the ladder, and thrift and industry have been the forces which have taken him higher and higher in the scale of prosperity.

On November 22, 1876, Mr. Bridgeman married for his first wife Ida James. At her death she was survived by one child, Ephraim. For his second wife Mr. Bridgeman married Miss Elizabeth M. Murdock. She was the mother of three children, all of





whom are still living: Harold, Opal and Edith. On May 28, 1893, Mr. Bridgeman married Miss Elvira Bailey. Her people originally came from England, and her father was a native of Baltimore, Maryland. From the East he came to Indiana, locating in Fountain County, where he resided nine years. Then lived a short time in Illinois, and from there came to Newton County, Indiana. He now makes his home with his son and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Bridgeman, and is now past ninety-six years of age. Mr. and Mrs. Bridgeman are the parents of two children: Leta and Laura.

Mr. Bridgeman, after his first marriage, bought eighty acres of land in section 15 of Beaver Township, and as success attended him in a progressive scale he bought more land until he now has about 440 acres under his control and management. He has been one of the most progressive and successful farmers of Newton County for a period of two score years. Improvements of the most substantial character have been put on the land under his control, and one of the best homes and one of the finest barns in the county now adorn his home place. His beautiful residence was erected about twenty-eight years ago. Mr. Bridgeman is an active republican and a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

SANFORD F. MILLIGAN. The real development of Newton County has come largely in recent years. Its fertile lands lay practically unused for a generation or more after the first settlements were planted, and after the resources became better known it is not strange that some of the prosperous farmers of other states, many of them from the West, were attracted to this beautiful region of Indiana. One of these men who came into Newton County recently and now controls a large amount of fine farming land in Beaver Township is Sanford F. Milligan, whose active years were largely spent in the State of Kansas.

Mr. Milligan is a native of Indiana, born in Butler County, October 27, 1850. His parents were James and Eliza (Hamilton) Milligan. His father was born in Ireland and the original paternal ancestry came from Ireland. In 1860 James Milligan moved to Warren County, Indiana, and was a successful farmer throughout his active career.

The fifth in a family of nine children, eight of whom are still living, Sanford F. Milligan grew up on his father's farm, learned the lessons as taught in the district schools, and by experience and training was well fitted for the independent career which he began at the age of twenty-one. For a time he rented land, and on July 22, 1877, in Warren County, he married Miss Mary E. Brier. Mrs. Milligan has proved a very capable helper and sharer in his life's work, and by working together they have found prosperity.

After his marriage Mr. Milligan lived a time in Benton County, Indiana, then removed to Kansas. He bought a farm close to Oswego in that state, and that was his home for nineteen years.



While in Kansas he acquired about 500 acres of rich land. From Oswego he removed to Crawford County, Indiana, bought 120 acres there, and made his home on land that belonged to Mrs. Milligan's mother. January 20, 1896, Mr. Milligan returned to Indiana and since then has lived in Newton County. His wife had inherited eighty acres of land, and Mr. Milligan bought this eighty acres, and he has since gradually extended his holdings until he is now proprietor of one of the best country estates in Beaver Township. Mr. and Mrs. Milligan are the parents of eight children: V. Pearl, Robert E., Clifford E., Pauline, James L., A. Clayton, Leone and Emma L. Mr. Milligan is a democrat, and strongly advocates those principles.

**JAMES P. ROGERS.** For fully thirty years James P. Rogers has filled an important niche in the agricultural activities of Newton County, and his farm and home in Beaver Township attest his thorough knowledge of the agricultural industry and his qualities as a homemaker and citizen.

He represents a family that was established in this section of Northwestern Indiana in very early days. Mr. Rogers is a native of White County, Indiana, where he was born January 2, 1856, a son of Luke and Harriet (Dobbins) Rogers. Both parents were natives of Virginia and were of F. F. V. stock. Luke Rogers arrived in White County, Indiana, in 1835, located on a farm near Wolcott, and was busied with its management and care until the outbreak of the Civil war. In 1861 he was one of the first to volunteer his services in defense of the Union. Enlisting in Company K of the Twentieth Indiana Infantry, a regiment that was recruited at Lafayette, he soon went east with his comrades and joined the army of the Potomac. He saw some of the hardest fighting in that great theater of the war, and among other engagements he was at Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville, Antietam, Gettysburg, not to mention a great many of the lesser named battles of that period. After the close of his career as a soldier he returned to White County and lived there quietly engaged in agriculture until his death. He was a stanch republican, and for ten years filled the important office of trustee of Princeton Township.

It was on the White County farm that James P. Rogers spent his youth and early manhood, and he was at home until he was twenty-five. In the meantime he had taken advantages of such opportunities as were given by the local schools, and on reaching his majority was well able to face the world alone and carve out an independent career.

On March 27, 1881, Mr. Rogers married Miss M. J. Archibald. For nearly thirty years they traveled life's highway together and in that time their children grew up and they had reached a point in their progress where their environment was one of comfort and honor. In 1910 Mrs. Rogers passed away, and since then Mr.



Rogers has continued to live on the old homestead. He is the father of two children: Laura B., who was born April 9, 1882, and Letta B., born December 17, 1887.

After his marriage Mr. Rogers started out as a renter. He followed that plan of farming for twenty years, and prosperity rewarded his well directed efforts. He inherited the eighty-acre farm in section 31 of Beaver Township, where he had lived since 1880, and which is still his home. Mr. Rogers is a man of great public spirit and the people of Beaver Township know him for that quality and for his wholesome attitude toward all public affairs. He is an active member of the Knights of Pythias and is a staunch republican.

Mr. Rogers is a devout member of the Church of Disciples of Christ of Antioch, a landmark of this part of Indiana, and he has been very active in promoting and upbuilding the Sabbath school. His estate is known as "Walnut Lawn."

**JOHN W. SMART.** A resident of Newton County since he was four years of age, John W. Smart has long been one of the most successful farmers of Beaver Township. His life has been one of industry, high ideals, honorable integrity and straightforward citizenship. He has made the best of his opportunities and no one in Beaver Township stands higher in the respect and esteem of his fellow men.

Mr. Smart was born in Kosciusko County, Indiana, March 16, 1849, a son of John and Lucinda (Clark) Smart. Both parents were natives of the State of Ohio. John Smart moved to Indiana and was an early settler in Kosciusko County, and he had the distinction of putting up the first weatherboarded house in the entire county. He was a practical farmer, a man inured to hard work, and did much in a practical way to lay the foundation of modern civilization in two counties of Indiana. During the thirteen years he spent in Kosciusko County he cleared up a big tract of land, and he then removed to Newton County and again undertook the heavy task of the pioneer. His home in Newton County was east of Brook, where he farmed for a couple of years, and then sold out and moved to Morocco, buying a farm west of that town.

As already stated John W. Smart was four years of age when his parents came to Newton County. His father had been twice married. His first wife had two children, of whom one, Adonijah, a soldier in the Civil war, was killed at the Battle of Chickamauga, while the other, Isaac Smart, is engaged in the lumber business at Kentland, Indiana. His second wife was Miss Lucinda Clark, and of the twelve children of that marriage nine are living.

John W. Smart grew up in Newton County, attended the local schools and proved useful and competent at every task to which he was assigned. He married Miss Melissa Goddard. Seven children



have been born to them, and the five now living are: R. Godfrey, William Glenwood, Sarah May, Ora and Flossie.

After his marriage Mr. Smart engaged in the hardware business in Morocco with William Kennedy under the firm name of Smart & Kennedy. That was a firm that continued with mutual profit for three years. On leaving the hardware business Mr. Smart turned to farming, buying 255 acres in section 16 of Beaver Township. Since then he has lived there, has prospered in all departments of farming, and has reared a fine family of sons and daughters. He located on the farm in 1880, and that has been his home for more than thirty-five years. Mr. Smart is an ardent prohibitionist and an active member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, as are also his wife and children.

FREDRICK BARTHOLOMEW. Every year that passes adds additional prestige and distinction to the honored survivors of the great war of the rebellion. Comparatively few of the men who fought for the preservation of the Union in the dark days of the '60s are still living. More than any class of men they deserve the esteem and respect of the present generation. One of the honored veterans of Newton County is Fredrick Bartholomew, who volunteered from this section of Indiana when a youth, and followed the flag as a faithful and courageous soldier until the wounds of battle compelled him to leave the ranks. Since then for a period of half a century or more he has followed farming, and is still living on his fine homestead in Beaver Township.

Mr. Bartholomew is an Englishman by birth and was born in that country June 17, 1842. His father, John B. Bartholomew, came to America in 1850, bringing his son Frederick, but leaving other members of the family behind. He located at Westfield in Chautauqua County, New York, where his family afterwards joined him, and where he lived for four years. In 1854 the family came to Tippecanoe County, Indiana, were there one year, and then removed to Jasper County. John B. Bartholomew rented land about five years, and made his first purchase of forty-three acres near the Jackson Township line. That was his home, and he engaged in the quiet and peaceful vocations of agriculture until his death. He was a member of the Christian Church.

Fredrick Bartholomew was the youngest of ten children. He was eight years of age when brought to America and has lived in Jasper and Newton counties for over fifty years. He attended local schools and his independence of character was early manifested, since at the age of seventeen he left home and hired out to work for William Conly. He contracted to work by the year and was paid a very small wage, \$100 for nine months' labor.

He was not yet nineteen years of age when the war broke out. Leaving his employment he enlisted in Company G of the Ninth Indiana Volunteer Infantry for a term of three years. His regi-





ment was first sent to West Virginia and afterwards was sent to Nashville with the army of the Cumberland to join the splendid fighting armies of Grant in the Tennessee campaign. Mr. Bartholomew took part in that tremendous battle of Shiloh or Pittsburg Landing, and was severely wounded there. He afterwards rejoined his command, and on the last day of 1862 occurred the battle of Murfreesboro or Stone River. There again he sustained a wound, and that permanently disabled him for further service, so that he was never able to fill out his term of enlistment. He was in hospital at different places, then sent to the front on detail duty and was there till enlistment expired, and was finally discharged with a squad of six of his comrades at Louisville, Kentucky.

After leaving the army Mr. Bartholomew returned home and took up the work of farming which has so long been his mainstay and at which he has been unusually successful.

On March 19, 1865, Mr. Bartholomew married Miss Mary Archibald. She died fourteen months after their marriage. On January 13, 1867, he married Miss Margaret L. Murphey. Mrs. Bartholomew is now deceased, and she left an adopted son who is still with Mr. Bartholomew on the farm. Mrs. Bartholomew was an active church member and belonged to the Ladies' Aid Society.

Mr. Bartholomew lives on his fine farm in Beaver Township near the Jackson Township line. His place consists of forty acres and for many years it has responded to his capable management and care. Mr. Bartholomew is widely known over Newton County, both as a citizen and as an old soldier, and he well deserves the peace and quiet which his early years of sacrifice and toil have provided.

JOHN C. SARVER. With the lengthening perceptive of years more and more honor is paid to the old soldiers who fought for the preservation of the Union during the dark days of the '60s. One of these veterans still surviving and honored through that service and his long local activity as a citizen of Newton County is John C. Sarver of Morocco. For upwards of half a century he gave his active career to farming in this county, and is now living retired in his comfortable city home.

Born in Marion County, Indiana, February 5, 1842, a son of John Sarver, he was left an orphan at the age of three years. He soon afterwards found a home in Newton County with Mr. John Padgett, who was one of the early settlers of this part of Indiana. It was in the home of his foster father that he spent his childhood and early youth, growing up on a farm and becoming practiced in its duties, and his education was that supplied by the local schools of sixty or seventy years ago.

Patriotic and loyal to his country, soon after the outbreak of the Civil war, though he was only a boy, he sought an opportunity to enter the army. At the age of eighteen, on August 16, 1862, he enlisted in Company E of the Ninety-ninth Indiana Volunteer In-



fantry. This regiment was recruited at South Bend, and was then sent south to Louisville, Kentucky. From there they went to Memphis under General Grant and started down the Mississippi, but before reaching Vicksburg were cut off by the Confederates. After that city fell the regiment went down the Yazoo River and was subsequently under the command of General Sherman. Mr. Sarver was with Sherman in the magnificent campaign toward Atlanta, and in one of the battles of that campaign received a severe gunshot wound in the thigh. He was then sent to a hospital, where he remained until convalescent, and then was at home until his wound had completely healed. Rejoining his regiment, he had the distinction of taking part in the famous march to the sea, went up through the Carolinas, where he and his comrades were on guard duty, and from there proceeded to Maryland and thence to Washington, where the regiment took part in the Grand Review.

Receiving his honorable discharge after this creditable record as a soldier, Mr. Sarver returned home to Newton County. Here he resumed farming as a hired hand for a short time, and in that way gradually got started in the career which brought him so much prosperity.

On June 15, 1867, in Beaver Township, Mr. Sarver married Miss Cynthia J. Williams, a daughter of George and Mary (Ash) Williams. Her people came from Pennsylvania, and Mrs. Sarver is one of a family of nine children. Of the five children born to Mr. and Mrs. Sarver the only one still living is George C. Sarver, who was born in 1868, and was reared and educated in Newton County, including a high school course at Morocco, and some years ago he went west and is now a prosperous farmer and rancher having a section of land in Montana. George married Miss Nora Cole, and has three children: William, Myrtle and Charlie.

From the time of his marriage until 1904 Mr. John C. Sarver was actively engaged in farming, and in that year he removed to Morocco. He still owns a valuable piece of land in Beaver Township, but is only concerned now with the management of this farm and his various other financial interests.

He keeps up his old associations with army comrades by membership in the Grand Army Post at Morocco, Indiana, and is also affiliated with Morocco Lodge No. 372, Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons, and was master of his lodge for ten years. Politically he is a democrat and a number of times has been called to serve in places of public trust. He was supervisor of his township a number of years and for eight years was constable in Morocco. He is a Newton County citizen who stands justly high in the estimation of his many friends and acquaintances.

WILLIAM D. MARTIN. During his residence in Newton County many interests have engaged the attention of William D. Martin. He is prominent as a banker, merchant, farmer, and people who



have known him longest have the most reason to trust him implicitly. He has followed a straightforward course through life, and his career has been of benefit to many others beside him self.

One of the oldest native sons of Newton County, he was born there August 28, 1853. His parents were Joseph C. and Carlotta (Camblin) Martin. His father, who was a native of Kentucky, moved from that state in 1848 to Lafayette, Indiana, and in the course of the same year arrived in Newton County, Indiana. Newton County was then a wilderness, practically unbroken, constituting a vast range of swamps and heavy timber and a few stretches of open prairie land. Physically and morally he was well fitted for the heavy task that confronted the pioneer. He acquired 160 acres of Government land in Washington Township, and spent most of his active career in its development and cultivation. He finally moved to the State of Kansas, where he died. His widow survived him and passed away in Newton County in 1915, aged ninety-two years. The father was a faithful Methodist for fifty years, and those that come after him may well take pride in his honorable character.

Second in a family of six children, five of whom are still living, William D. Martin grew up on his father's farm in Washington Township, and after completing his education in the local schools remained at home as a capable assistant in the management of the farm until he was twenty-five years old.

On April 6, 1879, Mr. Martin married Miss Mary D. Law. To their marriage were born four children, and the three now living are Joseph A., John D. and Alma L. The daughter Alma is a graduate of the high school and of the domestic science department of the University of Chicago.

After his marriage Mr. Martin spent fifteen years managing the farm of his father-in-law, and he then turned his attention to the grain business at Morocco in partnership with Mr. Law. That firm continued with mutual profit and interest for four years. Mr. Martin then resumed farming actively, and from Indiana moved to the territory of New Mexico, and was identified with that far district of the Southwest for three years. Since returning to Newton County he has looked after his varied business affairs. He is now president of the Morocco Citizens Bank, owns a half interest in the retail hardware business conducted under the name of Martin Bros. and still continues to derive profit and satisfaction from the management of some of Newton County's choice farm lands. His home and his valuable farms of 512 acres are located one and five miles west of Morocco.

Fraternally Mr. Martin is affiliated with Morocco Lodge No. 372, Free and Accepted Masons, with the Royal Arch Chapter, with the Modern Woodmen of America, is a democrat in politics, and he and his family are active members of the Baptist Church. For two years he discharged the important responsibility connected with the office of trustee of Beaver Township.



CHARLES E. HOSIER. There is not a business man in the Town of Morocco whose attainments and character are deserving of higher respect than those of Charles E. Hosier, who is a native son of Newton County, has identified himself successfully with the work of farming and commercial lines at Morocco, and has been an active figure in the public life of his home city and the county.

Born in Newton County, April 26, 1875, he is the son of Jacob Hosier, now a highly respected retired resident of Brook. Jacob Hosier was born in Ohio, moved from that state to Jay County, Indiana, and later to Newton County, this state. Jacob Hosier made a success as a farmer in Beaver Township of this county, and lived there until his retirement.

It was on the old homestead in Newton County that Charles E. Hosier spent the first twenty-one years of his life. In the meantime he attended the common schools, made the best use of his opportunities, and acquiring industrious habits has not found it a difficult matter to advance himself and his personal fortunes in the world.

On September 8, 1896, in Beaver Township, Mr. Hosier married Miss Alice A. Smith. To their union have been born three children. The two now living are: Thelma E., born March 6, 1897; and Donald E., born February 6, 1906.

Mrs. Hosier has always been an active factor in the home life and in assisting her husband in his business affairs. After their marriage he engaged in farming on his father's place for two years, and then moved to the farm of Mrs. Hosier's mother. He remained there five years, and since then has been identified with the business community of Morocco. For two years he was in the butcher business, and in the fall of 1911 became proprietor of a restaurant, which he has made the medium of a splendid service to its large patronage, and has made it one of the popular institutions of the towns.

In politics Mr. Hosier is a republican, and a man of extended influence in his party and in civic affairs in general. For two years he was a member of the school board, for another two years was supervisor of roads, and in 1914 was in the political race for clerk of the Circuit Court. The party has also named him as a candidate for the same office in 1916, and at this writing his candidacy is subject to the judgment of the people at the polls in November. Mr. Hosier is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and is affiliated with the Knights of Pythias at Morocco, and the Modern Woodmen of America, Camp No. 6494, at Morocco.

ARNET G. PURDY. One of the younger citizens of Newton County who have risen in the estimation of their fellow men and by ability and character have reached an enviable position in the community is Arnet G. Purdy, a successful farmer and business man and now serving as president of the Morocco Town Board.





Mr. Purdy was born March 2, 1883, a son of Isaac T. and Phoebe (Davis) Purdy. His father was born in Kentucky. His grandfather Zachariah I. Purdy was also a native of Kentucky, and a man whose career was especially notable because of the fact he lived to be one hundred six years of age. In the early days he removed to Warren County, Indiana, but after some time returned to Kentucky, but he died in Marion, Indiana. His children, including Isaac T., came from Kentucky to Indiana, and Isaac located in Newton County. In this county he located on eighty acres of land which he bought on the Sand Ridge, and was one of the early settlers in that district. The land he paid \$10 for he afterward sold for \$20. After selling his farm on Sand Ridge he moved to Morocco and was engaged in the meat business there, having established a shop thirty-one years ago. The grandfather, Z. I. Purdy was one of the honored veterans of the Civil war in Newton County. He served three years with an Indiana Regiment, and his record as a soldier was as capable as in business affairs. The father of Arnet was widely known for his public spirit as well as for the energy with which he prosecuted his various business undertakings. At the time of his death his estate comprised about 400 acres of land in Iroquois County, Illinois. Isaac Purdy was an active democrat, and in that brand of politics A. G. Purdy has remained.

A. G. Purdy was the oldest in a family of five children. He grew up in Newton County, received a training in the public schools, and has been chiefly identified with stock farming and business. On July 25, 1908, he married Miss Ida M. Dickey, who was a resident of Oklahoma. Six children have been born to their union: Marvel, Blanche, Alice, Florence, Floyd and Thomas. Mr. Purdy has served as president of the Morocco Town Board for more than three years.

HENRY K. CORBIN. One of the farms which contribute to the well ordered prosperity of Newton County is the place of Henry K. Corbin in Beaver Township. Mr. Corbin is well known and stands high in the citizenship of this locality, and in whatever direction his enterprise has turned he has been prospered. Life has been to him a serious proposition, and he has given it the best of his character and the best of his ability. About thirty years ago he was known as a renter, and from that position graduated into an independent farm owner and while providing a good home and rearing a family has been able to accumulate a sufficiency for his declining years.

A native son of Newton County and a son of an old settler, Henry K. Corbin was born in Washington Township October 2, 1864, a son of William and Nancy (Myers) Corbin. His father was a native of old Virginia, while his mother was born in Indiana. William Corbin came West in 1854, and in that early year located on a place three miles south of Brook in Newton County. He was comparatively a poor man and rented land for several years, but eventually bought a place of 208 acres and spent most of his active



years in improving and cultivating it. He is now living retired at Brook.

Henry K. Corbin was the fourth in a family of ten children, seven of whom are still living. Within his conscious recollection more than forty years have gone by in Newton County, and he has been a witness to nearly every development. He attended the local schools, and being reared on the farm was competent for all phases of farm labor when he arrived at his majority. After leaving home he rented land for several years and his first purchase was eighty acres in Jasper County. After farming there for a time he came back to Newton County and spent five years on his father's estate. He then bought 150 acres near Morocco in Beaver Township, and has made that his home ever since. In later years he has been gradually relieving himself of some of the heavier responsibilities of farming and has sold all his farm land except forty-five acres, but he owns 180 acres of rich land in the State of Colorado in the Arkansas Valley.

On January 2, 1896, in Beaver Township he married Miss Mary Sell. Mrs. Corbin has been a hard worker in their mutual success, and has been a splendid manager of the home. They are the parents of three children. Ruth V. was graduated from the Morocco High School in the class of 1916. The two younger children, still in school, are Vannus Lawson and Gracie May. In political matters Mr. Corbin is a democrat, has voted the ticket of that party for thirty years. He is a member and trustee of the United Brethren Church, and has served one term as trustee of the township. Mr. and Mrs. Corbin's beautiful home is known as "Cedar Lodge."

JAMES POTTS is one of the surviving pioneer citizens of Newton County. His home has been here since early youth and for a period of more than sixty years. These years have rewarded him with a substantial prosperity. At the same time he has enjoyed the esteem and confidence of his fellow citizens, and has a wide acquaintance over the county and is a man deserving of the best things in life.

He was born in Tippecanoe County, January 29, 1839, a son of Ephraim and Elizabeth Potts. His father was born in Pennsylvania. Ephraim Potts when fourteen years of age went to Ohio with an uncle, and not long afterwards moved to Carroll County, Indiana. From Carroll County he removed in early days to Newton County, and established one of the first homes in a district then sparsely populated. The father bought a farm of forty acres in section 17 of Beaver Township, and lived out his useful and honorable career at that place. He was a member of the Christian Church, and had graduated from the old whig party into the republican ranks, and adhered to that political doctrine until his death.

In the various localities where he lived as a boy James Potts acquired an education in such schools as were then maintained for the benefit of boys and girls. He also acquired industrious habits



and was well disciplined for the heavy work of clearing and farming as practiced fifty or sixty years ago. At the age of seventeen he left home and spent five years in working on the farms of his neighbors.

On November 29, 1860, Mr. Potts married Elizabeth M. Baker. Mrs. Potts passed away in 1904, after forty-four years of married life. Mr. Potts has lived on his farm of eighty acres in Beaver Township since 1867, a period of half a century, and in many ways this farm reflects his enterprise and good business judgment.

**WILLIAM COLLINS.** Since his arrival in Newton County nearly thirty years ago William Collins has been identified with the agricultural interests of Jefferson Township, and is now the owner of a very splendid farm in that locality. His career has been one of signal usefulness and his name is always spoken with the respect which it deserves.

He was born in Oxfordshire, England, and emigrated to America in 1887, making the journey alone. He came direct to Indiana, locating at Brook, where for the following eight years he carried on farming as a renter. Later he bought two tracts of sixty acres each, and has since employed his time in the development and cultivation of his large landed interests in Jefferson Township.

On July 4, 1889, he married Miss Catherine Martin. To their union were born six children, one of whom died young, and their four daughters and one son still living. These children have all had the advantages of the common schools, and have been well trained for the serious responsibilities of life.

Politically Mr. Collins is a staunch republican, and he and his wife are active members of the Christian Church in Kentland.

**JAMES B. CHIZUM.** In the realm of those practical economics that represent the productive results of human thought and action there is always room for a man of force, and he makes room for many others. Among the native sons of Newton County, Indiana, who have marked for themselves places of definite and worthy achievement and whose success has been the result of their own ability and efforts a place of not a little relative precedence must be accorded to James B. Chizum, who is president of the Western Publishing House, of Chicago, a corporation engaged in the publication of maps and other works for use in connection with schools, including higher educational institutions. That Mr. Chizum has not faltered in his appreciation of and loyalty to his native county needs no further voucher than the statement that here he is the owner of the finely improved landed estate known as Oakwood Farm, the same comprising 400 acres and being eligibly situated about midway between the villages of Morocco and Brook. This is one of the excellent farms of Newton County and under the control of Mr. Chizum it has won a reputation that transcends local limitations,



especially through his progressive and successful enterprise in the breeding of Short-horn cattle and Percheron horses of the best type. Though he is the executive head of a substantial and important publishing business in the great western metropolis, Mr. Chizum takes marked satisfaction in giving a general supervision to his country estate in Newton County, where he stands exponent of civic and industrial progressiveness, and thus there is special consistency in according to him definite recognition in this publication, further mention of the family being made on other pages of this work.

James B. Chizum was born in Beaver Township, Newton County, Indiana, on the 19th of September, 1856, and is a son of Joseph W. and Mary J. (Hanger) Chizum, the former of whom was born in Ohio and the latter in Virginia. The father of Joseph W. Chizum came from Ohio to Indiana and became a pioneer settler near Stockwell, Tippecanoe County, where he established his home in 1840 and where he reclaimed the productive farm on which he and his wife passed the remainder of their lives, both having been earnest members of the Methodist Episcopal Church and his political support having been given to the republican party, with which he identified himself at the time of its organization.

Joseph W. Chizum, the first in order of birth in a family of seven children, continued his association with agricultural pursuits in Tippecanoe County until 1852, when he came with his family to Newton County. Here he purchased a tract of forty acres of land, in Beaver Township, and he reclaimed one of the excellent pioneer farms of the county, the while he exemplified the best in loyal citizenship and constructive enterprise in connection with the civic and material development and upbuilding of this now opulent section of the Hoosier State. By his ability and well directed energy he accumulated a landed estate of about 800 acres, and he was one of the substantial and honored citizens of Newton County at the time of his death, both he and his wife having been zealous members of the Methodist Episcopal Church and his political allegiance having been given to the republican party. Of the six children three are now living, and of the number James B., of this review, was the fourth in order of birth.

The preliminary educational discipline of James B. Chizum was acquired in the Whitson Schoolhouse, one mile south of Morocco, and in his youth he gained full fellowship with the work of the home farm. In pursuance of higher academic education he attended the Methodist College at Stockwell, Tippecanoe County, and thereafter he put his attainments to practical utilization by teaching in the district schools of Newton and Tippecanoe counties. He availed himself also of the advantages of the Northern Indiana Normal School, now known as Valparaiso University, in which he pursued the studies of the scientific and classical courses, 1880-82.

After leaving college Mr. Chizum was for three years in the





railway mail service on the Monon Railroad - between Chicago and Louisville and between Michigan City and Indianapolis. His service in this capacity was during the administration of President Arthur, appointments to such positions having at that time not been under civil-service regulations, so that change of political administration was usually accompanied by the policy of removing such minor officials of opposing political allegiance.

In 1886 Mr. Chizum assumed a position as salesman for the Western Publishing House, of Chicago, and with this corporation he has continued his consecutive association during the intervening period of thirty years, save for an interim of one year, during which he was in the employ of the old Chicago Times, the greater part of this year having been passed by him on the Pacific Coast. In connection with the publishing business Mr. Chizum effectively developed a maximum potential, and the best evidence of his executive ability and concrete success is that given in his incumbency of the office of president of the Western Publishing House, a corporation that had its inception in 1877 and the publications of which are used to a greater or less extent in nearly all of the civilized countries of the world. Virtually all of the publications of the Western Publishing House are designed for use in direct educational work, and that they are maintained at the highest standard at all times is shown by the substantial demand for the maps and other publications in connection with the work of the public schools and institutions of higher education.

Of special interest as touching the province of this history is Mr. Chizum's close association with the industrial activities of Newton County. In 1896 he instituted the improvement of his land in Washington Township, this county, and he has made the Oakwood Farm a veritable model. He has installed a thorough system of tile drainage and has erected on the estate two sets of buildings for the accommodation of his two tenant managers and their families. By medium of the mails and by frequent personal visitations to his rural estate Mr. Chizum keeps in close touch with its various affairs and directs the general economic and material policies of the property. He is also vice president and director of the Farmers State Bank and stockholder of Farmers Elevator Company at Morocco. He is known for broad intellectuality as well as his business ability and civic progressiveness, and while he has had no desire to seek the honors or emoluments of public office he is found aligned as a loyal advocate of the principles of the republican party. In his extensive travels he has visited nearly all of the states and principal cities of the United States, has similarly familiarized himself with the different provinces of the Dominion of Canada and has toured in the different European countries, where, a few years ago, he specially noted the strenuous military preparations that foreshadowed the present and most tremendous war in the history of the world. In his native county Mr. Chizum still maintains his



active affiliation as a member of Morocco Lodge, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, and in the time-honored Fraternity he has received also the thirty-second degree of the Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite, his affiliation in this branch of Masonry being with the consistory in the City of Indianapolis, where also he is a member of Murat Temple of the Ancient Arabic Order of the Nobles of the Mystic Shrine. In the Village of Morocco, Newton County, he is a charter member of the Lodge of Knights of Pythias. The offices of the Western Publishing House, of which Mr. Chizum is president, are maintained in the Pontiac Building, 542 South Dearborn Street, Chicago, and his metropolitan residence is at 124 Marquette Road.

In the year 1890 was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Chizum to Miss Nellie F. Read, of Des Moines, Iowa. They have no children. For the past several years Mrs. Chizum has been actively concerned with the business of the Western Publishing House, and in this connection she has shown marked discernment and ability as a business woman, so that she proves to her husband a valuable coadjutor in the handling of the manifold details of a successful publishing enterprise.

MRS. SARAH ZOBOROSKY is one of the oldest residents of Newton County. She and her family have always been objects of special esteem among the people of this county, and she stands at the head of a family of splendid sons and daughters whose respective positions in the world need no apology. Mrs. Zoborosky is one of the women who have guided the destinies of their own homes and have extended their influence into the social and moral activities of their respective communities.

She was born on July 8, 1846, in the State of Ohio. Her father was a native of Pennsylvania, and from Ohio moved to Jasper County, Indiana, locating near Rensselaer, where he followed his vocation as a farmer and blacksmith until his death in 1891. Mrs. Zoborosky was one of eight children, all of whom are still living. Her father lived to be ninety-three years of age.

Mrs. Zoborosky was reared in a good home and given a good education, and at the age of nineteen, on February 25, 1865, she married Mr. Joseph Zoborosky. To their marriage were born eleven children, all of whom are still living, their names being: Ulysses, Frank, Joseph, Martin, Laura, Lewis, Farmer, Walter, Blanch, Edith and Charles. All these children had the advantages of the local schools, were well trained to lives of usefulness and honor, and all except two have married and have families of their own. Two of the children still live with Mrs. Zoborosky.

Mrs. Zoborosky has one of the most attractive country homes in Newton County. It is situated close to the Jackson Township line in Beaver Township, and the fine residence is surrounded by a farm of 520 acres. Mrs. Zoborosky has shown much skill and business



ability in managing this farm, and at the same time she has identified herself with the wholesome life of the community.

JAMES R. CRAIG is one of Newton County's prominent business men and land owners. His elegant manor is situated at Thayer in Lincoln Township, and in those commodious and beautiful surroundings he is enjoying the prosperity which his years of labor and intelligent efforts have gained and his life has also been of the character which has won him a high position in community esteem.

Mr. Craig has long been identified with all public movements for the good and benefit of his home county. It has been his pleasure to work for others and help in proportion to his ability those less fortunate than himself. That these efforts have been appreciated can be understood by the words of respect which are spoken of him wherever he is known.

Mr. Craig is a staunch republican, and is affiliated with Earle Lodge No. 649, Free and Accepted Masons. He has shown his interest as a good citizen in roads and schools, and at the climax of his busy career is found always ready to give his time to some public movement and is otherwise busied in looking after his farms and town properties.

GUY P. HOLLY is one of the prominent young business men of Morocco, and represents an old and substantial family of Newton County.

He was born in Newton County, December 29, 1886, a son of the late Charles E. and Alice A. (Smith) Holly. Charles B. Holly was born in New York State, and when he was quite young his parents moved west and located in Kankakee County, Illinois. They lived there for twelve years, and in 1870 the family came to Newton County, Indiana. Charles B. Holly found his first work as a cattle herder in Illinois, and after coming to Newton County took up farming, buying 132 acres of land two miles east of Beaver City. That was the home and the stage of his successful efforts as a husbandman for eighteen years. In 1898 he removed to Morocco, and for two years was in the hardware business alone. He then formed a partnership, and the store was conducted by himself and his partner for seven years. This partnership was followed by the firm of Kay & Holly, which continued for five years. After that Charles Holly lived retired from active business until his death in 1914. His wife's people came from Pennsylvania.

Guy P. Holly grew up and received his education in Newton County and he also attended Valparaiso University.

On December 27, 1906, he married Miss Bessie K. Smith. They are the parents of four children: Zebad, Corice, Esther and Frank.

LABAN LYONS is a prominent member of that worthy family whose name has been identified with all the historical progress of



Newton County from the pioneer days three-quarters of a century ago until the present. Mr. Lyons has spent his life rather quietly and unostentatiously as a farmer in Iroquois Township. The prosperity which resulted from his well directed efforts has enabled him to live retired or partially so for several years, and he has a comfortable home in Brook.

He was born May 31, 1853, half a mile east of Brook and is a son of Samuel and Margaret (Smith) Lyons. His parents came to Northwestern Indiana about 1840 from Ross County, Ohio. The Lyons ancestry is originally from Holland but the family has lived in America since colonial days. Mr. Lyons' mother, Margaret Smith, was born near Hoboken, New Jersey, of Dutch stock, and her parents came to Indiana during the decade of the '20s and about 1832 or 1833 moved to Iroquois Township and were among the first pioneers to invade the wilderness of Newton County. Samuel Lyons, who died June 5, 1905, at the age of ninety-two, had learned and followed the trade of blacksmith in young manhood, but in Newton County was chiefly known as a practical farmer. He lived in Jefferson Township about thirty-three years and finally moved to Iroquois Township, where he died. Of his family of four children, all are still living.

Laban Lyons grew up in Newton County, and has many interesting recollections of this section as it was fifty or sixty years ago. On February 4, 1886, he married Miss Mary R. Wolf. Her father was an Ohio man and in 1861 enlisted in Company P of the Seventy-first Ohio Infantry and was a soldier for four years. Among other great battles in which he participated were those of Pittsburg Landing and Nashville, Tennessee. Mr. and Mrs. Lyons had four children: Samuel, Mary E., Russell and Ralph, the last two being twins.

Mr. Lyons has long been a prominent member in the United Brethren Church, in which faith his family also worshiped. He was a steward in the church for twelve years. Politically he is a republican. After his marriage he rented land for some time, and then bought a place of fifty-two acres in Iroquois Township and lived on it eight years. He now owns a fine farm of 200 acres in that township, but a few years ago left the farm and has since lived retired in Brook.

**AARON OSCAR PHELPS.** The late Aaron Oscar Phelps was one of the pioneer citizens of this section of the State of Indiana, and he spent a busy and useful life in business enterprises in and about Kentland. He was a man of many splendid qualities of heart and mind, and enjoyed the confidence and esteem of all who knew him.

Mr. Phelps was born in Old Suffield, Connecticut, in 1836, the 16th of November being his natal day. He was a son of Aaron and Susan (Morley) Phelps, both of them of English ancestry. The progenitors of the Phelps families in this country were the





brothers George and William, and Aaron Oscar Phelps was descended from William's line. His parents were married in Connecticut and they became the parents of five children. Four of the number grew to years of maturity, but only one of them is living today, Dr. J. H. Phelps, now resident in California.

In 1836 Mr. Phelps married Harriet Peacock. One son, Clarence Phelps, was born to them, and he died at the age of four years. Mrs. Phelps died on April 29, 1897, and she is buried in the Kentland Cemetery.

The second marriage of Mr. Phelps took place August 9, 1870, at Ottawa, Illinois, when Miss Isabelle Buell became his wife. She was the daughter of Oliver and Martha (Post) Buell, who were natives of New York, later settling in Ottawa, Illinois, where they passed away late in life. No children were born of this second marriage.

In 1847 the family moved from Connecticut to Illinois where his father bought 350 acres of land near Aurora. The father's health failed in a few years and in hopes that a change would restore him, he returned to their old home in Connecticut. He died in a few weeks after his arrival. The mother died at the home of a son in Burden, Kansas, after living a widow for over fifty years. Her remains were taken back to Old Suffield and placed beside her husband.

Their son, Aaron O. Phelps, had his early education in Illinois, and when he was quite a young man he came to what is now Kentland. At that time it was a barren prairie, innocent of tree or shrub. He found employment in the only store, selling dry goods and groceries for a while, and later he worked at carpentering and painting. In fact, he was willing to do anything that was honest and would yield him a living. In his carpentering days young Phelps helped to build the first hotel in the place, owned by Mr. Kent, one of the pioneers of the district. He was a thrifty and prudent man and was able to save money enough in a few years to build and stock a small drug store. He went to Lafayette to buy his stock of goods, making the purchase from a Mr. Daggett there, and then was established the first drug store in Kentland. Mr. Phelps was not a pharmacist, but the laws in those days did not demand that he qualify himself strictly for the profession, and he was able to get along by studying carefully in the evenings, and in what other spare time he had. His studious habits, together with his great care in dispensing drugs, made it possible for him to succeed in that venture. As years passed he built, stocked and sold three different drug stores in the town, each of them successful business enterprises.

Mr. Phelps prospered in his business life, and when he died he was the owner of a good deal of property in this district, including a valuable farm of 370 acres in Newton County. He left Kentland in 1871 and went abroad and on his return lived in Chicago



and Ottawa, until 1884 when he returned to Kentland and where he built and established his home and retired from business. He was always a prominent man in his community. He served his fellow townspeople in various capacities during his lifetime. He had a great enthusiasm for the advancement of the public school system, and any movement having for its object the betterment of the town had his hearty support at all times. His interest was always a beneficent one, and he lived a life of rectitude and purity that made him an example to his fellowmen to the end of his days.

He passed away October 6, 1903, at Battle Creek, Michigan, and was brought back to Kentland for burial at Fairlawn Cemetery. He was mourned by all who shared his acquaintance. His widow survives him and is now living in Kentland.

WASHINGTON SCOTT AND GEORGE W. SCOTT. One of the old and honored families of Jasper County is now represented at the court house in the office of recorder. The Scott family has lived in Jasper County for about sixty years. In the main their vocation has been that of substantial farmers. Members of the present generation can also take pride in the fact that their grandfather was a veteran of the Mexican War and their father a soldier of the Union. In all their varied relations it can be said that the family has lived up to its opportunities and has helped advance the standards of civilization and as individuals have proved worthy and useful.

The late Washington Scott came to Jasper County some years prior to the Civil war. He was born in Mercer County, Ohio, April 28, 1836, a son of Nathaniel Scott, who was a native of Ireland and came to America when a boy. Farming was his steady occupation, and he finally located on a farm west of Rensselaer in Jasper County, Indiana, and died there when about ninety-seven years of age. Nathaniel Scott was the member of the family who served in the Mexican war during 1846-47. During his residence in Ohio Washington Scott married Margaret Davidson, and shortly after that event located on a farm about six miles east of Rensselaer. From there he returned to Ohio, but after a few years came back to Jasper County, and lived in this vicinity until his death. In 1891 Washington Scott left the farm, to which he had given his active attention for so many years and moved into Rensselaer, where he lived a retired life until his death on December 29, 1904. Washington Scott was a veteran of the Civil war, having responded to President Lincoln's call for troops in 1861. He went out with an Indiana regiment, and served until his honorable discharge nearly three years later, on account of disability occasioned by sickness. He was a democrat in politics, and for a time was trustee of Milroy Township. He was also a member of the Masonic Fraternity at Rensselaer, Indiana. By his first wife Washington Scott had seven children: Margaret, Mrs. Alva J. McCashen of Jasper County; Samuel, a Jasper County farmer; William, also a farmer in the same county; Nathaniel, a merchant at Rensselaer; Robert, who



died when a small child; George W.; and Catherine, who died in 1807, when about twenty years of age. The mother of these children died November 13, 1881. For his second wife Washington Scott married Mrs. Richard L. Cox, who is still living at her home in Rensselaer. The late Washington Scott is remembered as a man who was extremely temperate in all his habits, was inclined to be somewhat reticent and always attended strictly to his own affairs. The death of his first wife left him with six small children, to whom he was both father and mother. By precept and example he set before them the best qualities of citizenship and those who are now living and filling useful positions in the world have many reasons to respect and admire the qualities in the character of their father. While a member of no religious denomination, he was in all essentials a true Christian.

George W. Scott, whose name is specially familiar to Jasper County people through his official relations as county recorder, was born on the old homestead in Hanging Grove Township November 17, 1874. He attended country public schools and when about sixteen entered the Rensselaer High School where he graduated with the class of 1896. He qualified for work as a teacher, and for about ten years was one of the popular school men of Jasper County. About 1900 he became interested with his brother in merchandising at Rensselaer, and is still a partner in the well known concern conducted under the Scott name.

In 1912 Mr. Scott was the successful nominee of his party for the office of recorder of Jasper County, and is now giving a competent service in the performance of his official duties. Fraternally he is affiliated with the Knights of Pythias, Castle Hall No. 82. On September 23, 1908, Mr. Scott married Miss Lora Helen Rhoades. They have one daughter, Naomi Genene, born September 17, 1909.

MRS. STATIRA BETHIAH GOFF was born April 22, 1859, in Lisbon, Illinois. She was the eldest of five children born to Uriel and Lucy Evaline (Hecox) Nichols: The subject of this sketch; Mrs. Mary Church N. Runyan, born January 11, 1870; Mrs. Harriet Cynthia N. Armfield, born April 8, 1872; Lillian Hester N., born February 22, 1874, died August 2, 1905; Henry Uriel N., born December 8, 1877, died December 11, 1905.

Her father and mother were both born in Oneida County, near Utica, New York; were married July 25, 1854, and in a short time came west and located on a farm in Grundy County, Illinois; from there they moved to Chicago, then Logansport, Indiana, and then to Goodland, Indiana, as pioneer settlers, where they resided until their death (Mrs. Nichols died October 24, 1904, aged sixty-five years, and Mr. Nichols died March 8, 1912, aged eighty years), which is the present home of our subject, Mrs. Goff.

Her husband, the late Gilbert Goff, was born in Manchester,



New Hampshire, July 28, 1828, the eldest son of Stephen and Mary T. (Currier) Goff, both of whom were natives of New Hampshire. Stephen Goff died in 1830 at the age of thirty-three and his wife also passed away in New Hampshire, June 13, 1894, at the age of ninety years.

Gilbert Goff lived at home and labored on the farm until twenty-five years of age. He then came west, first locating in Ottawa, Illinois, where for fourteen years he was identified with mercantile enterprises. In 1869 he came to Kentland, Indiana, and opened a dry good store, was one of the pioneer merchants of that vicinity. He continued one of the leading merchants of Kentland for a number of years, but finally retired and moved to Goodland, Indiana, where he lived until his death, April 5, 1910, aged eighty-one years.

Mr. Goff was married September 23, 1853, to Susan E. Post of Spencer, New York. Mrs. S. E. Goff died January 27, 1883, at Kentland, Indiana, having been the mother of five children, all of whom are now deceased. On July 24, 1890, he married Statira B. Nichols at Goodland, Indiana. To this union one son, Gilbert Henry, was born, July 24, 1897, who is now living with his mother and attending high school.

Mr. Goff was affiliated with the Occidental Lodge No. 40, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, at Ottawa, Illinois, and also belonged to the Kentland Chapter No. 89, Royal Arch Masons.

MILTON E. GRAVES. A native of Newton County, Milton E. Graves has for a number of years been in the successful practice of law at Morocco. He has both the learning and industry requisite for success in this profession, and has already handled a large amount of important litigation in behalf of his clients.

He represents one of the older families of Newton County. He was born there July 31, 1883, a son of Harvey M. and Louise (Archebald) Graves. His father was a native of Ohio and brought his family to Tippecanoe County, Indiana, where he acquired a large farm. The grandfather also came to Indiana, and Harvey was the fourth in a family of nine children, three of whom are now deceased. Harvey Graves lived in Tippecanoe County until his removal to Newton County, and here he became an early settler in Beaver Township. He lived there for twenty-five years, and besides the material prosperity accumulated by his judicious efforts he also gained a wealth of esteem as an upright citizen and kindly neighbor. He was a consistent member of the Christian Church and a republican in politics.

Milton Graves grew up on his father's farm. That gave him a valuable physique and wholesome environment and outlook upon life. He attended the common schools, and from 1905 to 1907 was a student in Valparaiso University. Studying law Mr. Graves was admitted to the Indiana bar in 1908 and has since been in the active practice of his profession at Morocco.





On January 20, 1911, Mr. Graves was married in St. Louis, Missouri. Mr. and Mrs. Graves have one daughter, Ethel L., born November 12, 1907.

JOHN H. LEE. On October 26, 1865, John H. Lee brought his family to Newton County. While his advent was not widely heralded, and attracted attention only in the immediate locality, it was in fact an event of great significance and of subsequent value to the entire county.

Mr. Lee has for the past twenty years been one of the most progressive and successful farmers and stock men of Lincoln Township. His home place near Roselawn is in every way a credit to his management and ability. He had added thousands of dollars to the value of that community, and his example has been an encouragement and inspiration to others. While he has been very successful in material affairs, his worth to the community should not be measured by that alone. He has been progressive in matters of general improvement, and throughout has consistently upheld the cause of morality and education.

Mr. Lee was born in Norway, February 28, 1862, a son of Helge A. Lee and Anna J. Lee, natives of Norway. Helge A. Lee came with his family to America, arriving July 4, 1864. He finally located in the State of Illinois, where he acquired a tract of eighty acres in Kendall County and developed it into a splendid homestead, on which he lived out the rest of his years. He was born May 14, 1816, and died March 24, 1893. His wife, Anna J. Lee, was born September 16, 1817, and died May 24, 1905. Their children, who came with them to America, were Askel A. Lee, now of Chicago; Inga, Mrs. N. L. Jager, of Plattville, Illinois; Mary, Mrs. L. T. Peterson, of Newark, Illinois, and John H. Lee, of Roselawn, Indiana.

John H. Lee was reared on a farm, learned the lessons of thrift and industry which have stood him in such good stead in his mature life, and at the age of sixteen went to Chicago and started a tailors' express route. Starting with one horse and wagon, he developed this into a business, employing seven wagons and eight men. It gave him a good start, and while in Chicago he married and established a home of his own. He sold the express business in 1893.

On coming to Newton County he bought 280 acres in Lincoln Township, and that land still constitutes his home. However, it has been almost completely transformed by his labor of improvement. A fine barn, residence and other buildings have been added, and it is now an ideal country estate on which to spend his years in peace and comfort.

On September 4, 1886, Mr. Lee married Miss Mary Swedberg. Mrs. Lee is a daughter of Rev. and Mrs. A. G. Swedberg. Her father is a minister of the Seventh Day Adventist Church and is now preaching at Waukon, Iowa. Her mother's maiden name was



Fredrika Boberg. She was born near the City of Lindöping, Sweden, March 13, 1826, and died October 3, 1906, at the age of eighty-one years, six months, twenty days. She was twice married, her first husband having the same name as her father. In 1850 she and her husband, Anders Boberg, and an infant child crossed the ocean in a sailing vessel, and after fourteen weeks of tedious journey landed in America. They went on west to Burlington, Iowa, and on the way their child died of cholera. From Burlington they removed to Rock Island, and in 1854 Anders Boberg died, also of the scourge of cholera which was then raging throughout the country. Mrs. Boberg rendered much assistance in caring for the sick and helpless in that time. In 1852 she and her husband and four others organized the first Swedish Baptist Church in America. Of this church A. G. Swedberg became the pastor in 1854, and held that position for two years. Under his administration the first Swedish Baptist Church in America was built.

Mrs. Boberg was married April 5, 1856, to A. G. Swedberg, and they shortly afterwards removed to a home in Allamakee County, Iowa. In that community they became members of the third Swedish Baptist Church organized in America, and Rev. Mr. Swedberg was its pastor eight years. In 1874 Mr. and Mrs. Swedberg embraced the Seventh Day Adventist faith. Mrs. Swedberg was constantly true and devoted to her church, upheld her husband in his arduous work in the ministry, and was a splendid mother to her children. By her marriage to Mr. Swedberg there were six children, five daughters and one son. The son became prominent as editor of the Swedish organ of the Seventh Day Adventist Church. The daughters were: Minnie, who married Mr. Houghsted; Mrs. Mary Lee of Roselawn; Hannah, Mrs. Jedding; Augusta, Mrs. Frank Erickson, and Clara. Mrs. A. G. Swedberg in the course of her long life enjoyed that comfort which comes from the presence of many descendants, and at the time of her death she had fifteen grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. •

Mr. and Mrs. Lee are the parents of three children: Henry A., born October 22, 1887; Willie, born October 11, 1889; and Ettie A., born August 30, 1900.



















